

The Brooklyn Paper

Including The Brooklyn Heights Paper, Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper, DUMBO Paper, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper and the Downtown News

Brooklyn
 Papers
 Publication

Published every Saturday—online all the time—by Brooklyn Paper Publications Inc., 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn NY 11201. Phone 718-834-9350 • www.BrooklynPapers.com • © 2005 Brooklyn Paper Publications • 18 pages • Vol. 28, No. 36 BWN • Saturday, September 10, 2005 • FREE

RATNER DOUBLES DOWN

Higher bid still far short of MTA site's value

9-11 • FOUR YEARS LATER • 9-11

A WIDOW'S TALE

Memoir recounts experience of 9-11 hero's wife
By Ajia Grodzanic
The Brooklyn Papers

Americans will commemorate this Sunday, Sept. 11, as the fourth anniversary of the tragic day when the United States was attacked on its own soil and lost thousands of innocent lives.

For Marian Fontana the date also marks the 12th anniversary of her marriage to David Fontana, a firefighter with Park Slope's elite Squad 1 who perished in the line of duty on 9-11, leaving her a widow and a single mother to their then-5-year-old son, Aidan.

Fontana, 39, who has since become a leading voice among the families of 9-11's heroes and other World Trade Center victims, will mark this year's anniversary with the release of her book, "A Widow's Walk: A Memoir of 9-11" (Simon & Schuster, \$24). On Sept. 9, she will be hosting a private party for close family and friends—among whom she counts the former First Lady, Sen. Hillary Clinton.

In an interview this week with The Brooklyn Papers, Fontana said she wrote the memoir for her son as a testament of her experience of that tragic day and the year that followed, because, she said, she knew that she would forget the details as the years passed.

"I really wrote it the whole time with my son in mind," she said. "So that he has a document



Firefighter David Fontana with his son, Aidan. Fontana's wife, Marian, has written a memoir about her 9-11 experience.

of what happened."

Fontana said that she was pleasantly surprised at how well the personal memoir was received by both critics and the public. (The most recent issue of Vanity Fair featured excerpts from Fontana's book.)

"I'm pleased with how moving it was for people," she said. "A Widow's Walk" records Fontana's personal journey, starting early on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, when she was rushing to drop off Aidan at school, so that she could make it to a Connecticut Muffin coffee shop in Park Slope on time to meet David, then 37, after his shift at the firehouse ended. The two

planned to celebrate their eighth wedding anniversary by spending an undisturbed day together walking around Manhattan and going to the Whitney Museum.

The couple's plans were interrupted before they even started, when the first passenger jet crashed into one of the North Tower, 10 minutes before David's shift ended. Instead of meeting Marian, David, who, Marian wrote, "would never miss a fire," was one of the 12 Squad 1 members (both his shift of six men and their relief shift) who answered their final rescue call at the World Trade Center.

"OK, I'll see you at Connecticut Muffin in 10 minutes,"

Fontana recalled in her book of the last words she spoke to her husband. "That's it. No profound discussions. I can't even remember if I told him I loved him."

Fontana's memoir records the events of 9-11, as she experienced them, as well as her personal journey of coping with grief, widowhood and the challenges of being a single parent. A performer, writer and comedienne by profession, Fontana fills her heartbreaking story with love, friendship, compassion and, as surprising as it might seem, humor.

She writes about a priest who, upon learning that Sept. 11 marks her and David's anniversary, said, "God is incredibly lucky." She writes about going to one funeral after another, memorizing eulogies and laughing with other widows over an increase in demand for grief makeup and elaborate wreaths in the shape of golf clubs, football jerseys, surfboards, cigars, logos of bands and movies and even a Harley Davidson motorcycle.

But most of all, she writes about David, a loving father and husband, a courageous firefighter with a passion for art and history, a lifeguard and a beach lover. Fontana spent his career at Squad 1, a specially trained firehouse that covers a broad terrain, including three quarters of Brooklyn, all of Staten Island and parts of Lower Manhattan.

"It was the most difficult thing I

See **9-11 WIDOW** on page 6

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Forest City Ratner this week doubled its bid for development rights over the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Atlantic Avenue rail yards, but is still offering less than half of what the property is estimated to be worth, according to a published report.

The right to build over the Long Island Rail Road storage yards in Prospect Heights is a crucial component of the development company's plan to build a 19,000-seat professional basketball arena and 17 office and residential high-rises, including several skyscrapers that would tower over the surrounding area.

The development site of the proposed Atlantic Yards is bounded by Dean Street and Flatbush, Atlantic and Vanderbilt avenues.

Citing unnamed sources, identified only as "two executives involved in the talks," the New York Times on Wednesday reported that a special meeting might be held as soon as this Tuesday, Sept. 13, to approve the deal because developer Bruce Ratner had upped his company's bid from \$50 million to \$100 million.

An appraisal of the property for the MTA put its value at \$214 million.

The MTA put out a request for proposals, or RFP, for the site on May 26. Although Ratner's bid was the lower of the two bids submitted by the July 6 deadline, the MTA board on July 27 chose to negotiate exclusively with Ratner.

The competing bid, by Extell Development Company, was for \$150 million for the three parcels, and offered to pay to build platforms above them.

The MTA board is made up of 17 appointees, most of them direct or indirect appointees of Gov. George Pataki.

At the July 27 MTA hearing, the board's chair, Peter Kalikow, read a prepared motion to further discuss the bidding solely with Ratner, a Columbia Law School classmate of Pataki's. The governor has been a supporter of the Ratner plan since it was announced in late 2003.

Forest City Ratner executives argued at the July 27 meeting that their bid was greater despite only offering \$50 million up front, because it included \$29 million in renovations of the rail yards (to help pay for their relocation required under the Ratner proposal), as well as \$20 million in environmental remediation of the property (which needs to be done in order to develop the site for housing), \$182 million to build a platform (to build the housing and commercial properties over the shifted rail yards), \$254 million in MTA operating expenses and \$23 million in projected sales tax revenues.

The MTA board voted to give Forest City Ratner 45 days—until Sept. 10—to negotiate exclusively with Kalikow and Katherine Lapp, the executive director of the MTA and a former Pataki aide, leading to the \$100 million, according to the Times report.

Neither MTA nor Forest City Ratner officials would comment for this article.

Additionally, an MTA spokesman said that neither



Bruce Ratner doubled his bid for the Atlantic Yards site this week to \$100 million.

Lapp nor Kalikow had been around when the Times story broke.

"I can't verify that [the Times article is correct] because I don't know about it," said MTA spokesman Tom Kelly, a spokesman for the MTA.

"Kalikow has been away and Lapp has not seen a final [bid], so I don't know," said Kelly, who insisted that whatever information had been leaked was likely coming from the developer.

"This is not an MTA source," Kelly said. "The 'officials,' as far as I can see, could be Ratner people; this could be their way of getting this out there," he said.

See **CASH** on page 13

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Events mark 9-11 4th anniversary

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Colliding with a natural disaster so different in nature but close in the scale of casualties, the fourth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 bears an inextricable connection to the floods of Louisiana this past week.

Brooklynites and other New Yorkers are revisiting through the suffering down South the pain of destruction, and remembrance of the thousands of lives lost when airplanes turned into missiles and smashed into the World Trade Center towers.

This year, many religious congregations are finding ways to reach out to those suffering in New Orleans while helping themselves heal.

Others will continue to offer forums for reflection and critical thinking here at home. All services are open to the public.

Rabbi Joseph Potansnik, a Fire Department chaplain and spiritual



South Tower explodes on 9-11 after second jet slams into it.

leader of Congregation Mount Sinai, a conservative synagogue in Brooklyn Heights, will lead a commemorative service for firefighters, their families and the general public at FDNY headquarters, 9 Metrotech Center, at 1 pm

on Sunday.

In the following week, Congregation Mount Sinai will hold services for "special remembrance and response, to come together and learn about what can be done," said Potansnik, to connect 9-11 survivors with the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as Assumption Parish, a Roman Catholic church on Cranberry Street between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, will hold a 12-15 pm Mass in honor of all those who died on 9-11 and especially the firefighters from Engine 205/Ladder 118, around the corner on Middagh Street. Eight men from the firehouse died responding to the World Trade Center. The Rev. Michael Carrano has led a Mass in their honor every year.

The Rev. Dan Meeter, of the Old First Reformed Church, at 126 Seventh Ave. in Park Slope, said his congregation will hold a service at 11 am on Sunday.

See **COMMEMORATION** page 6



Sandy's got a dandy

Brooklyn Cyclones mascot Sandy the Seagull holds aloft a copy of The Brooklyn Paper during Brooklyn Papers Night at Kaysan Park last Thursday. The Cyclones, who fell out of playoff contention later in the week, kept hope alive with an 8-4 spanking of the hated Staten Island Yankees. For Brooklyn's best coverage of the Cyclones, see page 15.

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Report rips NY Times on Ratner

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Charging that the New York Times has shied away from critical coverage of Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards housing, office skyscraper and basketball arena plan because of its own hand deal with the developer, about two dozen Brooklynites gathered outside the newspaper's Manhattan headquarters last Thursday to draw attention to the issue.

Thing is, almost nobody covered the event.

While the more assertive members of the group descended upon any employee of the Times who would enter or exit the building's bronze-finished revolving doors, no reporters from the city's daily newspapers — the Daily News, New York Post, New York Sun or the Times — showed up for the 1:30 pm press conference outside the newspaper's 229 W. 43rd St. headquarters.

The only reporters who did turn out were from Brooklyn-based weekly newspapers.

The event was spurred by the release of a 169-page report on the Times' coverage of Atlantic Yards, authored by a freelance journalist named Norman Oder.

"About 25 people showed up," said Daniel Goldstein, spokesman for the anti-Atlantic Yards neighborhood group Develop-Don't Destroy Brooklyn, which helped publicize the independently published report and has made it available on their Web site, www.dddb.net.

The hefty tome details the Times' coverage of the \$2.5 billion project proposal, which Ratner's Forest City Ratner Companies says will cost the city \$1.1 billion by the end of 30 years.

Each chapter of the report, which employs calculations used by the city's Economic Development Corporation, information from transcripts of public meetings, press releases, development agreements, and a bevy of articles that have appeared in The Brooklyn Papers and the New York Observer, among other daily and weekly newspapers, to make the case that there have been many gaps in the coverage by the Times.

Because Forest City Ratner is currently developing the Times Tower, where the newspaper's headquarters will relocate, on Eighth Avenue at 40th Street in Manhattan, Oder wrote in the report's introduction, "It might be expected that the Times, the company's flagship newspaper, would offer thorough coverage, taking care to dispel any hint of conflict of interest."

"An assessment of the Times' coverage of the Atlantic Yards uncovers numerous stories missed," Oder wrote, characterizing the reporting as "inadequate, misleading, and mostly uncritical of Forest City Ratner."

"The Times seems to have abandoned its responsibility to look carefully at Bruce Ratner, Brooklyn's largest developer," he wrote.

Oder was inspired, he said, by an article that ran in the Times on July 5, titled "Instant Skyline Added to Arena Plan."

"I was outraged. They already had 17 towers planned, including the tallest building in Brooklyn," he said.

The article also made a waves for running the exclusively obtained photographs of a lit-up, intricate model of the buildings to be designed by Frank Gehry.

Oder, a freelance reporter who has written for the Daily News, Village Voice, New York Press, New York Newsday and Gotham Gazette, said he first tried writing to the Times in letters to the editor which never ran, and received no reply.

[The Times did, in its July 5 edition, run eight other letters of complaint from Brooklynites regarding its Atlantic Yards coverage.]

Then he reached out to Develop-Don't Destroy Brooklyn to see if the group had done its own investigation on the Times coverage.

"I never dealt with them before," said Oder, who then offered to take the Gray Lady to task.

Though the groups endorsing the report include DDBB, the Fort Greene Association, Park Slope Neighbors, the Prospect Heights Coalition and NoLandGrab.org, in his introduction, Oder claims "final responsibility for the report."

Goldstein said the group of protestors hit up everyone that crossed their path.

"We certainly believe we made people in that building aware that this report exists," said Goldstein. "People were coming in and out of that building, and we leafleted everyone who came through."

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Kings carnival

It doesn't get any more colorful than the costumes worn by revelers at the West Indian-American Day Carnival Parade along Eastern Parkway on Labor Day, as demonstrated by these two paraders.



James facing off with pro-arena foe

Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

The pivotal issue in the Democratic Primary for the 35th Council District seat comes down to 17 towers and one basketball arena over 15 blocks of Prospect Heights.

The candidates in the Sept. 13 primary are incumbent Letitia James, who in 2003 became the first person elected solely on the Working Families Party ticket when she trounced the Democratic Party-backed Geoffrey Davis, brother of the assassinated Councilman James Davis, whom she replaced; and two local businessmen, Charles Billups, a Department of Correction officer and chairman for the Grand Council of Guardians, and Samuel Eric Blackwell, a longtime Fort Greene resident who is a professor of Urban Planning at Long Island University.

While Billups was still on the ballot at press time, his campaign office did not return telephone calls seeking an interview.

The district, includes Fort Greene, Prospect Heights, Crown Heights, Clinton Hill and parts of Downtown Brooklyn.

Blackwell, a tenant of the Whitman-Ingersoll public housing development in Fort Greene, supports Ratner's arena plan.

He said the developer's Forest City Ratner Companies should get all the benefits and tax incentives for which it is eligible because, he says, the company is working with the community, though he said the plan should be "scaled back, in terms of the height."

"But, I think it has outweighed anything in terms of [the Downtown Brooklyn Plan] for community benefits," Blackwell said, decriing James' support of that massive rezoning initiative last year, which has yet to bear the fruit of development and consequent jobs.



Letitia James



Eric Blackwell

Blackwell said his experience as former executive director of Brooklyn United for Innovative Local Development (BUILD), the group that has negotiated with Ratner for job-hiring programs, local employment promises and benefits like free tickets to Nets games for the community, gives the perspective needed to represent the community in City Hall.

James beat the odds by winning the 35th district seat to replace Councilman Davis, who was assassinated inside City Hall by a deranged political foe in July 2003. She has ardently opposed the plans for the Ratner development site, complaining about a process in which, she says, the state and city have effectively brokered a deal to cede almost 24 acres of private and public property to Ratner.

Blackwell said he also supports reintegrating job availability in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which he said has been ignored by James.

"We have two yards here," he said. "The Brooklyn Navy Yard has been a traditionally racist institution. At one time 70,000 people worked in there, now we've got about 3,000 people working there," he said, and pointed out that few came from the nearby housing proj-

ects where he lives.

"I'm a planner, she's a lawyer," he said. "She prefers to argue for the community that has proudly existed here, and I prefer to plan here for our community and its future."

James says that while she's against the process by which as many as 7,300 units of mixed-income housing have been secured in the Atlantic Yards plan, improving affordable housing stock is a priority of hers in the rapidly changing district.

"The No. 1 issue is the lack of affordable housing, and we've been working on subsidizing affordable projects as fast as we can," said James, mentioning Atlantic Terrace, a condominium project in the works.

She said the Downtown Brooklyn Plan, contrary to Blackwell's claim, was much more community-oriented than Atlantic Yards.

"Unlike the Atlantic Yards, we've talked with all the residents who would be impacted by eminent domain," she said.

"I think we will be successful in eliminating [eminent domain] in the Downtown Brooklyn Plan," she said, adding, "My [community benefits agreement] is signed by the mayor of the City of New York."

She also mentioned a bill

she recently introduced that would bar use of eminent domain for economic development purposes.

Answering Blackwell's charges that she was ignoring the Navy Yard, she said development is already progressing there, citing the former Brig, between Park and Flushing avenues.

The former Naval prison was leveled in recent weeks in preparation for what the city announced in 2004 would become a 400-unit apartment complex with a community center and ground-floor commercial space. The specifics of the development are undetermined.

James said the site would bring in "affordable housing and supportive housing, as well as community facility space and some retail" in the space left behind.

Additionally, she said she has joined a task force formed jointly by City Council Speaker Gifford Miller and Mayor Michael Bloomberg to create an affirmative action policy for film industry hiring. This would urge Steiner Studios, which opened in the Navy Yard last winter with five production and sound stages expected to bring 1,000 new jobs, to adopt a hiring policy that would be backed by the local unions and studio executives, as well as the mayor's office.

"There's language in the bill that says we will be revisiting the issue of hiring people of color when we renew their tax credit, if we renew it at all," James said, referring to the incentive tax breaks offered to keep the film industry in the city.

James said she was also working to lower classroom sizes in her district.

"The No. 1 difference between my opponent and myself is that I don't believe we should cede city planning to a developer," she said. "I believe local planning should be done in conjunction with the agency for city planning, community boards, and local elected officials."

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DISCOUNT

Ikea plan key issue in 38th district race

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

The three Democrats vying for the City Council seat in Sunset Park and Red Hook have notably different opinions on the largest single development in their district this year — the planned Ikea.

While incumbent Sun Gonzalez landed plans for the 346,000-square-foot big-box store on Red Hook's Erie Basin waterfront, and helped under the company's application through the City Council, her two challengers for the seat have their doubts about the project's worth to the district when weighed against its costs.

Eddie Rodriguez, a former assistant district attorney, supports it cautiously, while Sunset Park activist and labor organizer David Galarza, says the big-box store is a raw deal for the community.

"In the beginning, I thought the issue of jobs was important, but as I studied the issue further and became aware of how Ikea moved into Red Hook, I felt like I was lied to in terms of the way, and the manner, it was imposing itself on the community," said Galarza.

"I don't think big boxes are



A computer rendering of the proposed Red Hook Ikea.

the solution for New York," said Galarza, pointing out that Ikea workers were not unionized. He aired skepticism as to how many good jobs it would offer locally.

"The waterfront we have, in Red Hook especially, is a precious commodity. I don't think all of the ideas that could've been, were explored. [The site] could've had greater benefits or uses than a big-box

store."

Rodriguez, a past president of the local school board, supports the Ikea, but not the demolition of the Todd Shipyard's graving dock on the site, which had employed 100 laborers.

"I came out in support of this, and I think Ikea can still enter into a community benefits agreement to provide the kind of job development and job creation they've promised," Rodriguez said.

"That's still key, and I haven't seen, on Ikea's behalf, the training programs for folks who are going to work at Ikea who they've promised jobs for in the community. I think Ikea needs to be held to that."

Rodriguez also said he believed Ikea needed transparency in their environmental and traffic studies that have been submitted to the state, and which were the focal point of a lawsuit against the city filed by Red Hook residents who protested the store. That lawsuit was dismissed.

He pointed out that Gonzalez made no determination on the issue for almost two years and called Galarza a flip-flopper.

Gonzalez says her decision to support the Ikea project came after much deliberation. "I support anything having to do with economic development," she said. "I believed in Ikea — it took me almost two and a half years, and I continue to be vigilant, and think they will step up to the plate and make [those jobs] happen."

Gonzalez, who has held the office since fall of 2002, has been criticized for connections to her predecessor, Angel Rodriguez, who was imprisoned for extortion, extortion conspiracy and fraud, among other charges in March of that year.

She won the special election and completed the term, gaining re-election just a year later.

Many credited ballot positioning with her victory — although it was a non-partisan special election. Gonzalez's name was at the bottom of the Democratic Party line, while her opponents, Eddie Rodriguez and George Martinez, were on either side of the ballot columns, under the Republican and Independent lines.

Galarza, whose nominating petition signatures were challenged by Rodriguez (the courts determined Rodriguez's claims had no merit), said that while he supports job creation in Red Hook, and the provision of recreational waterfront access in Sunset Park, his main concerns revolve around preservation of existing housing and the creation of more affordable housing.

"We've become open season for developers that are coming in and developing two- and three-family homes that only serve a very small part of the district," he said.

Rezoning certain areas, like Fourth Avenue in southern Park Slope and northern Sunset Park, has a detrimental effect on the affordability of housing, he said.

Galarza instead thinks all of Brooklyn should be rezoned, and the city's criteria for eligibility for affordable housing should be lowered.

"I'm talking about a comprehensive rezoning for all of Brooklyn. While they talk about inclusionary rezoning, something inside of me says, 'Hold up, let's really take a look at the definitions of affordable housing. It doesn't really seem in sync with the median income in my community,'" he said, comparing the city's median calculation, which is 62,000, and includes outlying counties like Westchester, with what he says many families of four survive on in his area: \$23,000.

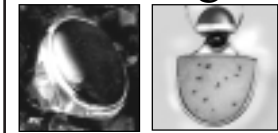
Rodriguez agreed, saying, "The most vulnerable people in our society are in desperate need of housing. The market forces are what they are, and folks who feel like they've been displaced now through sheer energy of market forces are displacing others."

His way of solving part of the problem would be to create housing for those most in need: low-income families and the elderly.

"The most urgent issue is finding housing for senior citizens, and finding a comprehensive plan to create more housing units," Rodriguez said.

"We need to maintain the character of our communities," he said.

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New WTC museum moving forward

Associated Press

Preliminary plans for the World Trade Center Memorial Museum at Ground Zero call for at least 110,000 square feet of floor area for exhibits and educational space spread out along a gradually descending path equivalent in length to roughly nine city blocks, according to a published report.

The exhibition route would take visitors through galleries, corridors and overlooks before culminating in a chamber 40 feet high and 240 feet long, the New York Times reported in an article appearing in Monday's editions. The remnants from the North Tower of the Trade Center would be left exposed on one side of the large chamber and a section of the original slurry wall on the opposite side.

On the lower level of the museum, 9,100 unidentified remains of Sept. 11 victims will be kept in a repository overseen by the chief medical examiner. Though the repository would be off-limits to the public, a contemplation room nearby is planned.

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'Gunpoint' robbery in train at Borough Hall

By Lilo H. Stalton
The Brooklyn Papers

A man reading a newspaper on the 4 train lost \$1,200 to a robber who jammed in his ribs what the victim believed was a gun as the train pulled into the Borough Hall subway station, police said.

The victim, 34, told police he was heading home to Queens from a friend's house at 2:50 pm on Sept. 20. Suddenly he felt an object poked into his ribs and the rider next to him said, "Give me your money or I'll shoot you right here." The victim told police he removed the wad of cash from his wallet and gave the bills to the thief.

"Stay on the train or I'll shoot you," the mugger demanded. The victim remained on the subway until the train reached Bowling Green, in Manhattan, where he left the train and asked the clerk at the subway station to call police.

The victim told police he never actually saw a gun. Police believe the robber fled the train at the Borough Hall station, in Brooklyn Heights at Court and Joralemon streets.

Stylish thieves

A Montague Street beauty salon lost \$500 to burglars who broke in through a window in the back, police said.

An employee at the shop between Clinton and Henry streets told police the salon was locked up at 9 pm on Aug. 30. But when stylists arrived the following morning, they noticed the money was missing from the cash register.

Police believe the thieves came in through the back window, which was broken and left open. The window leads to a courtyard in back of the building.

\$30G burglary

A State Street resident lost her engagement ring, wedding band, and other jewels and valuables worth nearly \$30,000 to a burglar who broke in through the window, police said.

POLICE BLOTTERS

The victim, 36, told police she left her home, near Hoyt Street, at 9 am on Aug. 27. When she returned, at 5 pm the next day, she discovered the burglary. Police said a screen window in front of the home was ajar and the front door was left open, possibly as the robbers escaped.

The stolen items included the \$15,000 engagement ring, two wedding bands worth \$3,250, a pair of \$4,000 earrings, several items of Mikimoto jewelry valued at \$2,400 together, and an IBM Thinkpad laptop computer, worth \$2,500, police said.

Burglar jumps

An elderly woman interrupted a burglar in the process of robbing her Bergen Street home, who escaped by jumping from her second-floor window.

The victim, 80, told police she was on the second floor of her home, between Bond and Nevins streets, at 1 pm on Aug. 31, when she heard a strange noise upstairs.

When the woman reached the second floor, she found the burglar rummaging through personal items in her bedroom, police said. Once discovered, the thief fled through a nearby window and disappeared into the neighborhood.

Police believe the burglar forced his way inside through two sets of doors before being caught en flagrante. The robber managed to snatch 15 Spanish and European coins and a Eucharist cup before he bolted, the victim reported.

Welcome home

A Hicks Street resident lost his \$2,000 computer to thieves who struck while he was away on vacation, police said.

The victim, 35, told police he left town at 8 am on Aug. 18. When he returned to his house, near Love Lane, at 2:47 pm on Sept. 1, he found the Apple computer was gone.

Police said there was no sign of forced entry at the apartment, although a contractor doing work in the building did have access to the victim's home, the building superintendent told police.

Motor running

Robbers snatched a car and an SUV this week from victims who left the vehicles running with the keys in the ignition. Police recovered one of the vehicle later the same day it was stolen.

The 28-year-old owner of a 2001 Mercedes Benz, told police he left the car — with the engine running — at the corner of Atlantic Avenue and Court Street at 9:45 am on Aug. 29, while he ducked into a store nearby. When he turned around, he saw his Benz disappearing down the street, police said.

The car was recovered at 10 pm, on Snyder Avenue in East Flatbush — across the street from Holy Cross Cemetery, police said.

Then, on the afternoon of Sept. 2, thieves snatched a 1997 Ford Expedition from a parking lot on Livingston Street, police said.

When the owner, 37, arrived at the lot, near Court Street, to pick up her car at 3 pm, the manager said the vehicle was not there. An investigation revealed that the vehicle was snatched sometime around noon when an employee at the lot was moving several cars and left the Ford Expedition running, say police.

Bottle basher

Police arrested a man who slashed a stranger with a broken Snapple bottle after midnight on Sept. 4, police said.

The victim, 23, said he and a 19-year-old Queens resident were at the corner of Atlantic and Third avenues at 12:45 am, when a stranger appeared, wielding the jagged bottle and beat him about the face, causing cuts, bleeding and swelling, police said.

Police arrested a Brooklyn man, 21, on felony assault charges later that day. Police Officer Ralph Hicks, of the 84th Precinct, made the arrest.

Project gunfire

Police are searching for a man who fired almost a dozen rounds outside the Farragut Houses public housing complex downtown on Sept. 2, sending one man to the hospital with bullet wounds in his back.

The victim's mother told police her son, 17, was shot while running away from the gunman, at 11:50 pm that night. The family told police the gunman was fighting with neighborhood teenagers at Gold and Sands streets and fired in self-defense, but they insisted their son was not involved.

The victim was taken to Bellevue Hospital, in Manhattan. Police collected 11 shell casings from the scene.

Museum attack

Police arrested three of four men who attacked a married couple who were arguing in the parking lot of the Brooklyn Museum in the pre-dawn darkness of Sept. 3, police said.

The male victim, 29, told police it was 3 am when he and his wife, 26, got into a loud discussion in the lot off Eastern Parkway. Suddenly four strangers approached, insisting he "beat her," according to police.

The husband told them to mind their own business, police said, but then the strangers turned on him. One man struck him with an unknown object and the other three jumped in, punching and kicking him, police said.

Police on patrol witnessed the attack and arrested three of the four men. The victim, who suffered injuries to his nose, identified his attackers in a lineup at the 78th Precinct stationhouse around 4 pm that day.

Police arrested three Brooklyn men — ages 20, 21 and 25 — on felony assault charges. Officer Shermel Davis made the arrest.

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Couple's quarrel leads to beating at Museum

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

Police arrested three of four men who attacked a married couple who were arguing in the parking lot of the Brooklyn Museum in the pre-dawn darkness of Sept. 3, police said.

The male victim, 29, told police it was 3 am when he and his wife, 26, got into a loud discussion in the lot off Eastern Parkway. Suddenly four strangers approached, insisting he "beat her," according to police.

The husband told them to mind their own business, police said, but then the strangers turned on him. One man struck him with an unknown object and the other three jumped in, punching and kicking him, police said.

Police on patrol witnessed the attack and arrested three of the four men. The victim, who suffered injuries to his nose, identified his attackers in a lineup at the 78th Precinct stationhouse around 4 pm that day.

Police arrested three Brooklyn men — ages 20, 21 and 25 — on felony assault charges. Officer Shermel Davis made the arrest.

Can-do attacker
A man was attacked on Fifth Avenue Sept. 1 by a loony tune with a tin can.

The victim, 61, told police that at 6:30 pm he was walking along the avenue, near 14th Street, when a stranger approached, paused to ask a question and then attacked, beating him about the head with a can.

The victim, of 17th Street, suffered a bruise and swelling on his head.

Bergen beaten
A young man lost credit cards and a cell phone to muggers who also beat him in the dead of night on Sept. 3, police said.

The victim, 23, told police he was leaving a friend's apartment on Bergen Street at 4 am when the pair of thugs attacked. Police said he was between Flatbush and Fifth

78/72 PRECINCTS

avenues when he was jumped from behind.

One mugger went through his pockets while the second stood guard, police said. When the victim began to struggle, the lookout punched him in the face, leaving his nose and eye bleeding.

Police collected a limited description of the muggers but did not search the area because the victim did not report the crime until 8:15 am. The stolen items included a Verizon cell phone, valued at \$75, a debit card, health insurance ID card and a \$25 gift certificate, police said.

iPod targeted

A teenager lost his iPod and digital camera to a bicycle-riding thief armed with a box cutter, police said.

The victim, 16, told police he and another 16-year-old were walking on President Street, near Sixth Avenue, at 1:10 am on Aug. 30, when a stranger suddenly blocked their path. The man flashed a box cutter, insisting, "Give me your money or someone could get hurt," police said.

The mugger snatched the teenager's valuables and fled, peddling westbound on President Street on a blue mountain bike, police said. The items reported stolen included a \$200 Kodak digital camera and the iPod, valued at \$150, police said.

Early bird

Robbers hit a Sackett Street home on the morning of Sept. 1, leaving with nearly \$3,000 in valuables — but also leaving behind valuable clues for police.

Police said it was 10 am when the residents discovered a broken window in the bathroom of their house near Fourth Avenue. Sometime after 1 am, burglars stole an IBM laptop valued at \$1,500, a \$150 iPod, \$500 worth of jewelry and MetroCards valued at \$500, according to police.

cards, police said.

The victim, 46, of Eighth Avenue, told police the thief snatched the wallet from her open purse after she visited the outdoor event at Grand Army Plaza around 1 pm on Aug. 20. After she received the credit card bill with \$700 in unlawful charges, the victim reported the crime to police on Aug. 29.

Tools taken

Robbers snatched \$8,500 in tools from a home under construction on Sackett Street, police said.

A construction worker, 42, told police he arrived at the job site, between Fourth and Fifth avenues, at 9 am on Aug. 31 and discovered his property was missing. The home had been secure at 5 pm the night before, police said.

Police discovered a window leading to the basement was broken; the panes had been left on the stairs outside the home, they said.

The stolen tools included four saws worth a total of \$3,500, a \$3,000 water table, a table saw worth \$900, \$600 in drill parts and a tool kit valued at \$500.

Knife-point rob

A man walking on Nevins Street after midnight on Sept. 3 lost a few bucks and his BlackBerry to a pair of armed robbers, police said.

The victim, 31, told police it was 2 am when two strangers appeared behind him, as he reached the corner of Nevins and Douglass streets. One man said, "Give me your [expletive]," and pressed a folding knife to his neck, police said, while the other thug kept watch.

The armed man rifled the victim's pockets and found \$4 and the \$300 communication device, police said. Snatching both, they fled south, towards the nearby housing projects, according to police.

The victim, of Carroll Street, was not injured.

Fresh picked

A woman shopping at a greenmarket lost her wallet to a pickpocket, who then charged \$700 on her credit

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9-11 WIDOW'S TALE...

Continued from page 1

wrote," Fontana said of her memoir, which recalls the most traumatic time of her life. "It's very personal. It's the only way I knew how to write it."

Praising her editor, Marysue Rucci, Fontana said she could have written three books had Rucci not cut in half the 800 pages she submitted last February, which took her two and a half years to write.

Fontana tells the story of how she became the public face of 9-11 grief and a liaison between victims' families and powerful politicians, beginning with her fight to save Squad 1 on Union Street from being closed down shortly after the terrorist attacks.

"I never planned on becoming an advocate in any way," Fontana told The Papers. "I wasn't really calculating what I was doing," she said, adding that she was "moving on in spite of it" when she organized a rally less than two weeks after the attacks, in order to protest the closing of Squad 1.

On a flipper she titled "A Widow's Plea," and posted all over Park Slope the day after she found out about the planned closing of the firehouse, Fontana wrote:

"The firefighters of Squad 1 are working tirelessly to retrieve their fallen brothers and are heartbroken to be displaced from their home. Please don't let my husband die in vain by letting the firehouse be loved and served, close."

Thanks to the efforts of Fontana and her supporters, the Park Slope firehouse remains open.

After that, Fontana said, "it snowballed issue after issue," and she found herself meeting with the likes of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani — whom she first confronted on Nov. 9, 2001, after hearing of his plans to remove firefighters from the recovery efforts at Ground Zero — former Fire Commissioner Thomas Von Essen, Gov. George Pataki and receiving invitations to luncheons from Sen. Hillary Clinton.

Each politician adopted a family of a fallen firefighter like a pet, Fontana wrote. Giuliani and Clinton adopted her. As president of the 9-11 Widows and Victims' Families Association, with offices on Cortland Street overlooking Ground Zero, Fontana remains active in 9-11 matters. In 2002 and 2003, her organization

helped ensure that the two footprints of the Twin Towers would be preserved.

While she otherwise professes love for the proposed World Trade Center memorial, she said that there's a problem with the design, which will list the names of the victims along the footprints without singling out emergency responders.

"If you worked in the South Tower, your name will be listed along the footprints of that tower, and if you worked in the North Tower, your name will be listed along those footprints," she explained.

"But the firemen didn't work there," she said.

"I am attached to my husband's squad and so are the other wid-

ows," she said. "And we want them to be listed together."

And while everyone is arguing over the issue, Fontana said that her organization is moving ahead and opening a temporary visitor center next to Ground Zero, which will contain a small museum with artifacts as well as other tours guided by retired firefighters, rescuers, volunteers, family members and survivors.

"People come [to the World Trade Center site] from all over the world and stare at the hole, not knowing what really happened," she said. "We want to provide more factual evidence and give them a first-hand account of what happened."

Fontana's organization is still deciding on the content of the

museum, which is scheduled to open in March. Guided tours will commence as soon as Sept. 9.

As a member of the board of what was originally known as the "Brooklyn Wall of Remembrance" memorial on the KeySpan Park facade, Fontana is an advocate of the push to add more than 200 names and likenesses from all five boroughs to the list of 9-11 heroes etched in stone and drop the word "Brooklyn" from the name. She says that it's nicer to include everyone because it's all New York.

"It's a wonderful memorial and it's been a pleasure to be a part of it," she said of the Coney Island wall.

Fontana has since left the small, floor-through apartment she shared with David in Park Slope — she said the old neighborhood was a constant reminder of her loss — for a 146-year-old carriage house on Staten Island, whose high-beamed ceilings and tall windows David would have loved, she said.

"Friends were shocked that I would move to Staten Island, the retarded second cousin to Manhattan and Brooklyn," she wrote in her memoir. "But I fell in love with this house and its half-acre of land, with a stream running through it and Japanese maple trees and an old dogwood that cascades white flowers in May."

But Fontana maintains close ties with her Park Slope, where

most of her friends still live and where she can be found on Tuesdays, writing at the Brooklyn Writers Space on Garfield Place.

"I wrote my whole book there," she said.

Fontana writes in her book that she's willing to give the possibility of a second love another chance, but, unlike most of her widow friends, she has not found it yet.

For now, she is focused on going back to her career as an actress and comedienne, performing character monologues.

"It's ironic. I've spent 20 years trying to make people laugh," she told The Papers. "Now I make people cry."

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Fontana has since left the small, floor-through apartment she shared with David in Park Slope — she said the old neighborhood was a constant reminder of her loss — for a 146-year-old carriage house on Staten Island, whose high-beamed ceilings and tall windows David would have loved, she said.

"Friends were shocked that I would move to Staten Island, the retarded second cousin to Manhattan and Brooklyn," she wrote in her memoir. "But I fell in love with this house and its half-acre of land, with a stream running through it and Japanese maple trees and an old dogwood that cascades white flowers in May."

But Fontana maintains close ties with her Park Slope, where

most of her friends still live and where she can be found on Tuesdays, writing at the Brooklyn Writers Space on Garfield Place.

"I wrote my whole book there," she said.

Fontana writes in her book that she's willing to give the possibility of a second love another chance, but, unlike most of her widow friends, she has not found it yet.

For now, she is focused on going back to her career as an actress and comedienne, performing character monologues.

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Detail from the cover of Marian Fontana's 9-11 memoir.

COMMEMORATION...

Continued from page 1

gration continues to try and bring Christians together in prayer with Muslim and Jewish congregations. During their regular 10 am service on Sunday, speaker Debbie Almontaser, of the American Arab Muslim Federation, will address parishioners.

For the first time since the completion of its plantings last spring, the Prospect Park Alliance will have the completed 9-11 Memorial Grove available for reflection and remembrance in the North Long Meadow of Prospect Park.

The grove was first planted Sept. 3, 2003, with funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Living Memorials project, and features 25 trees so far, eight of which were donated by families or friends of 9-11 vic-

tims and include oaks, sweet gum, cucumber magnolia, dogwood, pine and holly.

"We encourage anyone who's lost a loved one on 9-11 to plant a tree in the grove, and there's still opportunity to participate in our tree grant program," said Amanda Eisen, the program's coordinator.

Trees start at \$750, for under one story tall; taller than one-story trees are \$1,000; for \$10,000, a donor can buy a grove of trees.

All trees are planted by arborists, but donors may hold a ceremony at the planting.

"This year, we don't have anything specific planned but the space is open to everyone, and we would certainly encourage any groups or families to come and be in the space, and

use it as a quiet place for reflection," said Eisen.

Visitors can enter the park on the foot path from Grand Army Plaza and walk under the arches, she said. The grove spans along the edge of the Long Meadow between the two arches.

"All the proceeds go towards the maintenance and ongoing care of Prospect Park, and it's many, many trees."

The Brooklyn Public Library will be hosting a panel discussion at 2 pm on Sunday titled, "Loss and Memory," which will feature personal reflections by university professors. Panelists include essayist Andre Aciman, of the City University of New York, who authored the best-seller "Out of Egypt"; historian and author Casey Blake, from Columbia University; and for-

mer poet laureate Dennis Nourse, of Sarah Lawrence College. The event is part of the September 11th Memorial Series effort to foster civic events in all communities on Sept. 11.

At Borough Hall on Sunday, Borough President Marty Markowitz will host a commemorative chamber music concert at 2 pm. The concert is free and open to the public. Borough Hall is on Joralemon Street at the corner of Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn.

The official city memorial of 9-11, led by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, will be held at Ground Zero and feature the reading of the names of all those lost, in the World Trade Center by 9-11 victims of the deceased.

The first moment of silence will be at 8:46 am, the time the first jet struck the North Tower, and houses of worship will be asked to toll their bells at that time. The second moment of silence will come at 9:03 am, when the second plane hit the South Tower. A third moment of repose will come at 9:59 am, when the South Tower collapsed, and a fourth at 10:29 am, in honor of the moment the North Tower fell.

"Taps" will then be blown by NYPD and FDNY trumpeters. While the names are read, family members will be able to descend the ramp to the lowest level of the site where they may lay flowers. The ceremony will conclude at approximately noon, however, the site will remain open to families until 4 pm.

At sundown, the "Tribute in Light" will return for one night, in memory of those lost and as a symbol of the spirit of New York City.

The "Tribute in Light" will be located at a new site this year, at West and Morris streets in Lower Manhattan.

In Bay Ridge, there will be a 9-11 memorial event Sunday night at the 69th Street Pier, where the Brooklyn Remembers 9-11 memorial stands. The pier is at Bay Ridge Avenue and Shore Road. The event, which starts at 8 pm, will feature a 21-gun salute, a moment of silence and inspirational speeches.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Union Temple

Park Slope's Finest Reform Congregation

SHABBAT SERVICES
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at Grand Army Plaza
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Located on Prospect Heights since 1928

603 St. Johns Place
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Pri. at Sunset • Sat. 10:30am • 404/2752

PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER
8th Avenue at 14th St.
Fri. nights 6:30 pm
Sat. mornings 10 am

Adult Ed. @ Hebrew School
Rabbi: Celia Green
Park Slope's Egalitarian, Conservative
768-1453

Saturday, September 10

SYNAPEX SHABBAT* "AS ROSH HASHANA APPROACHES: FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY"

Concurrent, innovative options for people of all ages and backgrounds. Choose the experience that speaks to you.

9:30-12:00 Noon

9:30-10:30 A.M.

10:00-11:00 A.M.

11:00-12:00 Noon

12:30-1:30 P.M.

1:30-2:45 P.M.

3:00-4:30 P.M.

- Sanctuary Service
- Open Breakfast Bar, Tiny Tots Play Time
- Adult Sessions: "Making the High Holidays Meaningful to Children"; "Can You Sit in Services if You Don't Believe in G-d and a Jewish Meditation Service"
- Three Youth Services for ages 2-5, 6-8 and 9-11
- Adult Session: "Getting Comfortable with the High Holiday Services"
- Sumptuous Community Luncheon
- High Holiday Discussion Groups: "Preparing Your Relationships: Jewish Advice on Forgiveness"; "Preparing your Voice: the Music of the Holiday Services"; "Creating a Plan to Treat Your Body Better This Year"; "Open Conversation for Interfaith Couples with the Rabbi"
- Amazing Puppet Show for ages 3-7 with Jennifer Levine
- Teen Activity
- Community Gathering in Local Park

Children available throughout the day. You must register by September 6th; 718-875-1550. All events are free of charge and drop-in; no registration required.

Sunday, September 11

9:00 A.M.

10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

ANNUAL FALL OPEN HOUSE

- Morning Service with Memorial for Victims of September 11, 2001
- Meet our Rabbi, Hebrew School and Preschool staff
- Find out about our educational and cultural programs, Israel activities and social action projects
- Supervised activities for children
- Order High Holiday Tickets
- Register for The Kane Street Hebrew School, Kane Street Kids Preschool, and Adult Education Classes

Sam Weintraub

Rabbi

Donald Olenick

President

Jennifer Newfield

Hebrew School Director

Joyce Heller

Preschool Director

KANE STREET SYNAGOGUE

236 Kane Street (between Court and Clinton)

Cobble Hill, Brooklyn; 718-875-1550; www.kanestreet.org

Hebrew School: office@kanestreet.org and Preschool: kids@kanestreet.org

*Synapses is a project of STAR (Synagogues: Transformation and Renewal), an organization promoting Jewish renewal through Congregational innovation, sponsored by the Charles and Lynn Schacterman Family Foundation, Jewish Life Network/Schneerson Foundation, and The Samuel Rabinowitz Foundation.



(718) 834-9350

The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

September 10, 2005

The transformer

Hurst native Vincent D'Onofrio juggles movie and TV roles

By Karen Butler
for The Brooklyn Papers

Starting on a TV show like "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" is the ideal gig for an actor with Vincent D'Onofrio's chameleon-like powers of transformation. While working on the popular crime drama allows the Bensonhurst native time to explore and develop a single character, the series' annual hiatus offers him the freedom to explore a variety of new personas on the big screen, like the worried father in Mike Mills' new film, "Thumbsucker."

"It's perfect, actually," D'Onofrio told GO Brooklyn in a telephone interview Thursday. "You get a lot of things done."

The well-respected character actor, with more than 20 years of experience, told the Associated Press this summer that he now has "the cushiest job on television," because he'll star in half of this season's "Law & Order: CI" episodes with Kathryn Erbe while the other 11 episodes will feature "Sex and the City" actor Chris Noth (reprising his decade-old "Law & Order" role as Det. Mike Logan) opposite Annabella Sciorra.

D'Onofrio has amassed more than 50 acting credits, including five seasons on "Law & Order: CI," and appearances in every kind of movie imaginable from warm-hearted romantic comedies like "Mystic Pizza" and "Mr. Wonderful" to surreal thrillers like "The Salton Sea" and "The Cell" to big-budget, Hollywood pictures like "Men in Black," "Full Metal Jacket" and the upcoming Jennifer Aniston laffer "The Break Up."

Later this month, the 46-year-old performer will be seen in the independent film "Thumbsucker." Based on Walter Kirn's novel and co-starring Tilda Swinton ("Constantine"), Keanu Reeves ("The Matrix") and Vince Vaughn ("Wedding Crashers"), it is the story of a family coping with the teenage son's disturbing oral fixation. Newcomer Lou Taylor Pucci has won awards at the Berlin and Sundance film festivals for his role as Justin, the titular character, while Swinton and D'Onofrio portray his confused parents, middle-aged people dealing with their own fears and regrets. (Reeves plays the guru orthodontist to whom Justin turns for help in overcoming his problem, while Vaughn plays the debate coach whose friendship isn't always in the boy's best interest.)

"They sent me the script, and I met Mike Mills for just about a half an hour or so and we just liked each other a lot," D'Onofrio recalled. "I liked what he was trying to tell."

Admitting he wasn't familiar with the book before reading the screenplay, the actor said he was immediately drawn to Mills' version of the story, which was both funny and sad.

"When I read the script, I saw that it was about every member in a family trying to figure out who they are and that's what really goes on, and it was a nice way to tell that kind of story,"



In good 'Order': (At left) Bensonhurst native Vincent D'Onofrio as Det. Robert Goren in a scene from "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" and (above) as Mike Cobb (with Chase Offerle as Joel Cobb and Tilda Swinton as Audrey Cobb) in Mike Mills' debut film "Thumbsucker."

he explained. "To be involved in it, especially to play a father in that kind of story, was a really interesting role."

D'Onofrio said he could relate to his character in almost every way.

"I have two kids [Leila, 13, with actress Gretta Scacchi and Elias, 8, with Carin van der Donk] and I've got my eyes on them at all times. But at the same time I have my eyes on my own life and how it's evolving," said D'Onofrio, who spent most of his childhood and teen years shuttling between divorced parents in Brooklyn and Florida. "So, it's the balance of the two to make sure that you have your eyes on your kids all the time and then still take in yourself and everyone else around you."

It's a huge task, but it's what life is — a struggle to keep trying to get it right and don't quit. "The actor said he had a wonderful time making this movie because the people involved were so talented and creative."

"I had a great time," D'Onofrio remarked. "Tilda and I went straight into improvisations for a couple of weeks and the time I spent in

that house with those actors and Mike was a great experience. They're really good actors and we searched really deep, and it shows in the movie, I think."

Although "Thumbsucker" is the first full-length movie for Mills, D'Onofrio described the director of countless commercials, music videos and short films as a consummate professional, one who was open to new ideas and who encouraged actors to offer their input.

"He's an artist," D'Onofrio said simply. "He knows how to collaborate. Everybody on the set, no matter who you were, was listened to. And the best thing about him is that he can direct. He knows how to guide. He knows the story he's trying to tell and he gets you there."

The ability to work quickly and often affords D'Onofrio the opportunity to constantly pursue new and exciting projects.

"I'm never bored. I enjoy what I do so much. There's no grand plan, I just want to do what I want to do when I want to do it."

So, does that mean D'Onofrio doesn't try to stagger his film choices, like following up a

heavy drama with a comedy so as not to repeat himself?

"Not if there is another heavy drama that I like," he said. "I've been in over 50 films. I've been in the business for half of my life. I've had really good luck, and I've worked with some incredible people, and I've never been out of work. And so every time I see an opportunity, like making a film, especially now, I'm going to try to take advantage of it."

Although he has started making short films himself — his 32-minute "Five Minutes, Mr. Welles," about Orson Welles, was shown out of competition at the Venice International Film Festival earlier this month — D'Onofrio said he has no intention of giving up acting to go behind the camera full-time.

"Everything about acting still excites me!" said the actor, who played Welles in Tim Burton's 1994 film, "Ed Wood."

"The storytelling. That's what's exciting about it; the storytelling part. To help tell a story whether you are in a film for five minutes or two hours, I don't care. To help tell a story is a cool thing. That's why I became an actor."

"Thumbsucker" opens in New York and Los Angeles on Sept. 16. The season premiere of "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" will be aired Sept. 25 on NBC.

CINEMA

Baseball blues

BAMcinematek presents Jos de Putter's 2002 documentary "Brooklyn Stories," about local fans sharing their baseball memories, — especially those of the Brooklyn Dodgers, on Sept. 13 as part of its "Double Dutch" series.

"Brooklyn Stories," which will be screened at 6:50 pm and 9:15 pm, isn't a series of talking head interviews with experts and historians. Rather, the subjects are the definition of your aging, average Joe waxing nostalgic about Pee Wee Reese embracing Jackie Robinson. While the stories have an important place in Brooklyn's history and in the annals of baseball lore, they are certainly not news to the average borough resident.

The audience members that would most enjoy this film might well be Brooklyn's newest residents. For everyone else, these "Stories" are old hat.

BAMcinematek is located at 30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene. Tickets are \$10, \$7 for students 25 and younger with a valid ID, seniors and children under 12. For more information, visit www.bam.org or call (718) 636-4100.

— Lisa J. Curtis

ART

'Orleans aid

Artist Carri Skoczek and Tracy Causey-Jeffery, director of Ch'i contemporary fine art gallery, have organized an art sale to take place on Sept. 13 with the proceeds to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Titled "Artists Aid 'Orleans" the show features pieces of donated art, including Skoczek's 5-inch square "Tough Cookie" (pictured), made with nail polish, acrylic and pearl powders on wood, which cost \$50 and up. The funds raised will support "either Habitat for Humanity or America's Second Harvest, earmarked to help provide food, water and shelter to New Orleans' needy," according to Causey-Jeffery.

"Artists Aid 'Orleans" also includes beverages, music and crayfish etouffé donated by local merchants. The fundraiser will take place on Sept. 13, from 6 pm to 9 pm at Ch'i, 293 Grand St. between Roebeling and Havermeier streets in Williamsburg. Donated art can be mailed or dropped off at the gallery on Sept. 10-11, from 11:30 am to 8 pm, and Sept. 12 from 9 am to 6 pm. For more information, call (718) 218-8939 or e-mail tracy@chianartspace.com.

— Lisa J. Curtis

MUSIC

What's new

From Sept. 14-18, musician Brian Tate, artist Danny Simmons and the Fulton Mall Improvement Association present their second annual Brooklyn New Music Festival at indoor and outdoor venues around the borough.

Among the 21 bands slated to perform is Jungli (pictured), who will play Sept. 18 at 11 pm at Trash Bar in Williamsburg.

The festival kicks off on Sept. 17 with a free concert, from 1 pm to 6 pm, at Albert Square in Fulton Mall. The line-up includes Burnt Sugar; aksestra; Pissolen; Tate's band, Shrine for the Black Madonna; Sorni; and Suffrajett. The concert coincides with a sidewalk "SalesDay" held by the Fulton Street Mall retailers.

The Brooklyn New Music Festival will also include five nights of 55 concerts at the Brooklyn Lyceum in Park Slope, the Five Spot in Clinton Hill, Frank's Lounge in Fort Greene, Sputnik in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Trash Bar.

Even Pratt Institute will take part in this showcase of new, alternative music by hosting a panel discussion of Brooklyn's live music scene, featuring a slate of the borough's club owners. The discussion is scheduled for Sept. 15, from 6 pm to 8 pm, in Pratt's Memorial Hall.

For more information about Jungli's concert, call Trash Bar (254 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue) at (718) 599-1000 or visit www.thetrashbar.com. For more information about the panel discussion at Pratt Institute [200 Willoughby Ave. between Classon and Saint James streets] call (718) 636-3657. And for a complete schedule of the Brooklyn New Music Festival, see the "Brooklyn Nightlife" listings in GO Brooklyn or visit the festival's Web site www.seedsandrain.com.

— Lisa J. Curtis

Rosie gives BAM the scoop

Actress Rosie Perez gave the crowd an earful at the BAM Rose Cinemas on Aug. 24, and they responded with applause and admiration.

Perez made the short trip from her Clinton Hill home to BAM for a two-day tribute to her work titled "Born in Brooklyn." BAM screened Spike Lee's 1989 "Do the Right Thing" and Nancy Savoca's 1999 satire "The 24 Hour Woman." (Peter Weir's 1993 film "Fearless," for which Perez was nominated for an Oscar and Golden Globe, was a conspicuous omission.)

Perez, 41, told GO Brooklyn the honor was "overwhelming," and she comes to these cinemas — as an audience member — "all the time."

The Emmy-nominated ("In Living Color") choreographer-actress answered questions from

the crowd following the screening of "Do the Right Thing" — a surprising choice for BAM's curators as the actress has made public her "bitter-sweet" memories of being directed by Lee.

During the Q&A, the Bushwick native didn't hold back; her answers revealed her enthusiasm about her craft as much as her opinions about Lee.

Against a recording of Public Enemy's "Fight the Power," Perez choreographed and danced a ferocious, boxing-inspired solo over the opening credits of "Do the Right Thing" and credits her "angry, frustrated, sloppy and passionate" performance to Lee directing her to dance for eight hours — with breaks to ice her aching elbows.

Despite the angst-filled memories of making the flick, Perez said, "I have such a sense of pride that I was part of such an historic

film....Even though I hate it, I have to give credit to Spike Lee."

Perez revealed that she will put her experiences — including those early conversations with Lee's director of photography Ernest Dickerson who "let me sit on the camera and go on the dolly track" — to work when she steps behind the camera for the upcoming Independent Film Channel documentary "I'm A Boricua, Just So You Know," about the political history between America and Puerto Rico.

After the crowd filed out of the theater that Wednesday night, Perez stood on the sidewalk and spoke to and signed autographs for every fan, even giving patient advice to girls — born not so long ago in Brooklyn — who aspired to be actors from the borough, too.

— Lisa J. Curtis



BROOKLYN ites

Neighborhood
Dining Guide

This week: DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN

Chipotle Mexican Grill

185 Montague St. at Clinton Street, (718) 243-9109. www.chipotle.com (AmEx, MC, V) Entrees: \$6.45-\$7.32. *

In August 2004, the ever-popular Chipotle Mexican Grill chain unveiled a sleek outpost in Brooklyn Heights. Although the menu is small, none of the choices will steer hungry Brooklynites wrong. The huge, customized 20-ounce burritos, made right before your eyes, are overstuffed with your choice of meats and/or vegetables, rice, beans and condiments. There is even a fajita burrito with peppers and onions. Chipotle's guacamole is made fresh throughout the day. Margaritas and beer are also available. Open 11 am to 10 pm daily.

Eamonn's

174 Montague St. at Clinton Street, (718) 596-4969. www.eamonnss.com (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$12.95-\$20.50.

Eamonn's simply has it all: a decor that is timeless and comfortable, an enclosed sidewalk cafe, an active and friendly bar, an upstairs dining room that can accommodate private parties up to 75, and something on the menu for everyone. You'll find a large selection of salads, sandwiches, hearty entrees and Eamonn's traditional fare like Irish sausage and mashed potatoes with onion gravy or chicken potpie. There is also a prix-fixe dinner selection for \$19.50, which includes soup or salad, select entrees, dessert and coffee. Weekend brunch at Eamonn's runs 11 am to 4 pm. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Junior's

385 Flatbush Avenue Extension at DeKalb Ave. (718) 852-5257. www.juniorscheesecake.com (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$9.25-\$29.95.

Opened in 1950, Junior's is a Brooklyn landmark named for founder Harry Rosen's sons Walter and Marvin, and boasts what might be the most famous cheesecake in America. But Junior's makes more than just a dozen varieties of cheesecake. Have you tried their cookies, croissants or chaffles? Mondays through Thursdays, from 4:30 pm until closing, Junior's offers a \$14.95 prix-fixe meal including a fresh fruit cup or soup of the day, tossed green salad, a choice of entrees, including roast half spring chicken, meat loaf and Hungarian beef goulash, and a choice of select desserts and soda, coffee or tea. Owners Alan and Kevin Rosen ship their cheesecakes anywhere in the United States (call 800.9.JUNIORS), so if you haven't indulged, you've got no excuse — no matter where you live. Open Sunday through Wednesday, from 6 am to 12:30 am; Thursdays, from 6:30 am to 1 am; and Fridays and Saturdays, from 6:30 am to 2 am.

La Traviata

(Two locations) 130 Montague St. at Henry Street, (718) 858-5592; and 161 Joralemon St. at Clinton Street, (718) 858-4100. www.latraviatogo.com (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$8.25-\$14.95.

This is a great father-and-son act. Ralph Tormesso Jr. and his dad take a personal interest in their popular Brooklyn Heights eatery, and this interest can be seen in every detail — from the marble fountain in the rear patio at the Montague Street location to the friendly staff and simple menu at both establishments. La Traviata offers all those dishes that have made Italy a gourmand's delight — chicken alla Marsala, veal Marsala, shrimp scampi, and more. Lighter fare includes thin-crust pizza with an extensive selection of toppings. Delivery service via phone or the Web site at the Joralemon Street location. Weather permitting, sidewalk cafe seats are available. Open Sunday through Thursday, from 11 am to midnight, and Friday and Saturday, from 11 am to 1 am.

Lichee Nut

162 Montague St. at Clinton Street, downstairs, (718) 522-5565 (AmEx, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$9-11.95.

This Brooklyn Heights Chinese restaurant has had several locations, owners and chefs, but through-



Queen restaurant chef and co-owner Vincent Vitello.

out has maintained the high quality that has kept customers coming back for more than 20 years. Owner Jerry Shen has dedicated himself to keeping the restaurant's fare authentic. Chef Eric Wu cooks in both Szechuan and Cantonese styles and prepares a broad spectrum of dishes. The house special is a generous plate of jumbo shrimp sautéed with Chinese vegetables and lichee nuts — which, by the way, are not nuts at all, but actually large seeds containing sweet and succulent fruit. Open Monday through Saturday, for lunch and dinner, and Sunday, from 1 pm to 10 pm.

New Apollo Diner

155 Livingston St. at Smith Street, (718) 858-5600 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$5-\$19.95.

Enter and prepare to be welcomed by the friendly pink-and-white Greek interior. Come for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Try the salad platter served with fresh lettuce, tomatoes, sliced green peppers, black olives, stuffed grape leaves, boiled egg, anchovies, and feta cheese (imported from Greece). Sate your cravings with homemade "pastichio" (Greek-style lasagna), warm spinach pie and Greek "mousaka." This family restaurant has specials all day long and offers takeout for hungry Brooklynites on the run.

Park Plaza

220 Cadman Plaza West at Clark Street, (718) 596-9900 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$8-\$20.

For 22 years this diner-style family restaurant has offered breakfast, lunch and dinner, seven days a week, 364 days a year. (They take Christmas Day off.) Locals return to the comfortable, wood-paneled dining room for the famous half-pound burgers, made with a "special secret seasoning" according to manager Nick, and prepared with your choice of 15 different toppings. Offerings also include home-style dinner specials and the "Catch 22," a dinner-for-two special that includes your choice of two appetizers and two entrees for \$22.22. A prix-fixe \$13.95 brunch is served from 10 am to 3 pm on weekends. Delivery available.

Queen

84 Court St. at Livingston Street, (718) 596-5555. www.queenrestaurant.com (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$14.50-\$31.

Now in its 46th year, Queen has a decor that matches the high standards set by its traditional, but not stodgy, Italian menu. Just a hop and a skip from Borough Hall, Queen has a three-course, \$23.99 prix-fixe lunch menu for the business crowd, offered until 6 pm everyday. Dinner features sumptuous fare, like homemade specialty ravioli that change weekly and seasonal dishes like pork scallopini with fresh fava beans and prosciutto. Brothers Pasquino and Vincent Vitello, who took over operations from their father, Anthony, impress with their long list of daily specials, too. Delivery available. Open for lunch and dinner on weekdays and dinner-only on weekends.

Samurai Sam's

115 Court St. at State Street, (718) 643-9582 (Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$3.99-\$7.99.

Charles Randazzo's restaurant opened on April 19. Take a seat at this Japanese-themed eatery and try one of Samurai Sam's specialties: the "yaki soba" (wok-stirred noodles and fresh grilled veggies) or teriyaki shrimp and broccoli served over rice. Chicken, steak or vegetarian teriyaki wraps are served with rice, green pepper, onion, cabbage and zucchini, in a fresh flour tortilla, and served with Samurai Sam's "famous" teriyaki sauce. Party trays are also available. Delivery available. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Editor's note: These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to www.brooklynpapers.com on the Web. If your restaurant is not listed and you would like it to be, please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via e-mail at Curtis@brooklynpapers.com.

Artist haven

Greenpoint's new Paloma serves 'urban American' food with film, art & performance

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

Few restaurants fit as seamlessly into a neighborhood as Paloma does in Greenpoint. Open since late May, the eatery attracts the spillover of Williamsburg's young artists who want to live and dine in a like-minded community, but can't afford the trendier neighborhood's tab.

Paloma, named for owner Darius Rivera and executive chef Camille Becerra's daughter, resembles a not-too-glitzy gallery space that happens to be perfumed with grilling meat. The setting — high ceilings, cement floors, a few modern faux-leather banquettes and a drive-in sized movie screen on one wall — serves as a local art gallery with monthly exhibitions, musical performances and film screenings.

Paloma's bar serves innovative cocktails, some concocted with "42 Below Vodka" from New Zealand that the house infuses with fruit. The refreshing Kaffir Gimlet — Kaffir lime-infused vodka with a splash of Cointreau and fresh lime juice — is a must to try.

Paloma is an ideal venue for diners who crave sophisticated fare at affordable prices.

"We've coined the phrase 'Urban American Cuisine,'" says Becerra, who created the dishes. "Our menu is simple, focusing on regional and seasonal ingredients." Each day's offerings include just six appetizers, six grilled entrees and two specials. While Becerra still oversees Paloma's kitchen, she has hired Edward Martinez to execute her recipes and add his own touches to the lineup. Martinez, formerly of Manhattan's San Domenico, and bistros in France, spins out greenmarket fare that scores big points for flavor, with a few mishaps here and there.

One simple appetizer that demonstrated a light hand in the kitchen was a fresh pea, spinach and feta cheese salad. A sprightly vinaigrette barely moistened the ingredients, but it was enough to add spark to the clean taste of the vegetables and underscore the saltiness of the cheese. Slices of grilled peaches



and country bread "crosini" topped with bleu cheese sounded great on the menu, but had no chemistry on the tongue.

The eartheness of a rich, creamy cauliflower sauce heightened the sweetness of a special entree of crusty sea scallops, while pleasantly chewy, vine-garlicky oyster mushrooms, undercooked the velvety sea creatures.

A butery mound of monkfish, another special on this night, deserved a more exuberant partner than the surprisingly flat "bouillabaisse" sauce that accompanied it.

A sweet-fleshed, moist, head-on, grilled brook trout also made good eating if you peeled away the fish's over-salted skin. Coupled with the most was a hour-long pool of lemon-laced sweet potato puree with the texture of a silken mousse.

The humblest of dishes, a grilled



Just peachy: (At left) Co-owners Darius Rivera and Camille Becerra in front of their restaurant Paloma. (Above) Chef Edward Martinez's slices of grilled peaches and crumbled blue cheese on Portuguese bread.

chicken, was just as satisfying as the delectable scallop dish. From the grill, Martinez pulls three large pieces of a juicy, vibrantly seasoned, free-range bird. He tops the meat with cilantro, lime and jalapeno peppers that crisp the skin and permeates the chicken with tart, herbaceous heat. A pile of big, crumbly, perfectly salted onion rings reminded me of just how good they can be.

Each evening there are two vegetarian entrees. On this night, it was grilled market-fresh vegetables and figs with house-baked summer squash and cheddar bread; the other vegetarian dish was a special of crisp, sweet potato pancakes drizzled with tangy creme fraiche and scattered with halves of small, red and gold heirloom tomatoes, that were like the sun shining on the tongue.

Judging from the two desserts I tried

(four are offered; on this evening, two were sold out), the sweet end of the menu needs some rethinking. The waitress described the "Moroccan date nut torte" as "sort of like a cookie." It was sort of like a cookie, but not crisp, and sort of like sweet bread without the moist crumb. The only thing it wasn't sort of like was a satisfying finale.

The "spicy chocolate torte" had all the makings of a great, Mexican-inspired brownie: bittersweet chocolate laced with dried chili that left a little tingle of heat in the back of the throat, a moist center and a crisp top. But too many nuts in the batter were a distraction.

As we left, a few diners ordered another round of cocktails and settled against their banquettes for a screening of "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," one of the movies the staff runs on late, weekend evenings. Like the film's hero-turned-heroine, a German-born transsexual finding her place as a woman and a wannabe rock star in America, there are rough edges to smooth out. And like Hedwig, there's plenty of talent, too.

DINING

Paloma (60 Greenpoint Ave. between West and Franklin streets in Greenpoint) accepts American Express, Diners Club, Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Entrees: \$7-\$13. The restaurant serves dinner Tuesday through Sunday, and brunch on weekends, from 11 am to 4 pm. Closed Mondays. Starting Oct. 1, the restaurant will offer lunch. For more information call (718) 349-2400.

Honor thy father

Windsor Terrace, the neighborhood between Park Slope and Kensington, has a lot to offer. But while quiet streets with pretty homes and friendly neighbors are a few of its advantages, it is not a destination stop for fine dining.

Nat Natalie aims to change that with his recently opened Da Vincenzo, named in honor of his father.

"There wasn't an Italian restaurant in the area that looked special, offered great food and wouldn't kill anyone at the cash register," Natalie said. The Bay Ridge resident gutted the corner space on Prospect Park West and Prospect Avenue — once the home of the Regina Bakery (now located a couple doors down on Prospect Avenue) — laid amber tiles on the floor, added a gorgeous wooden bar and lit the room with elegant hanging lamps.

While the weather is warm, Natalie opens the glass doors, which fold back like an accordion and allow breezes to circulate throughout the 50-seat room. Diners can also opt to eat alfresco at one of the outdoor tables.

Chef Chris DeDietrich, pictured at

left with "Tubettoni da Vincenzo," offers a menu that is "two thirds northern Italian and a third southern Italian," says Natalie. You'll find Chilean sea bass baked in thin slices of potato; swordfish "Da Vincenzo" sautéed with tomatoes, capers, onions and olives; and simple pasta preparations like the "Monte Cristo" — pappardelle (broad, flat noodles) with porcini mushrooms, fresh tomatoes, pancetta and basil.

For the finale, there's DeDietrich's special "banana turtle cake" — brownie-like layers filled with slices of bananas, caramel, walnuts and topped with whipped cream.

Windsor Terrace never had it so good.

Da Vincenzo (256 Prospect Park West at Prospect Avenue) accepts American Express, Diners Club, Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Entrees: \$14.75-\$26. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Brunch is offered on Sundays from 9 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays. For more information, call (718) 369-3590.

Tina Barry

★ = Full review available at

**Brooklyn
papers.com**

Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express; DC= Diner's Club; Disc= Discover Card; MC= MasterCard; Visa= Visa Card



Where to GO

Compiled
by Susan
Rosenthal

SAT, SEPT. 10

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

OUTDOOR SCULPTURE SHOW: Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition hosts "Sculpture," its third annual outdoor show, 8:30 am to 8:30 pm. Empire Fulton Ferry State Park, enter at Main and Dock streets. (718) 596-2507. Free.

GREEN WOOD TOUR: Take a tour of Battle Hill, the resting place of Leonard Bernstein and many other well-known people. Historian Jeff Richman leads tour. \$10, \$5 members. 1 pm, 25th Street and Fifth Avenue. (718) 768-7300.

TRANSIT MUSEUM: NY Transit Museum presents a talk, "On Location: New York Transportation in Film." Film historian Peter Daved talks about how NYC's bridges, tunnels, subways and buses have been a source of cinematic inspiration to filmmakers. \$5, \$3 children and seniors. 1:30 pm. Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street. (718) 694-1600. Also, museum hosts a walking tour "Subways for Dummies." Learn how to be a subway expert, with the help of visual language available to riders, such as maps, system layouts, station art and identifying colors. Urban geographer Jack Eichenbaum leads. \$20, \$15 members. Reservations necessary. (718) 694-1867.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER: "Under the Table" performs "Field of Schemes," a social satire performed in parks. 2 pm and 5 pm. Greene Park, enter at Myrtle Avenue or DeKalb Avenue and Cumberland Street. www.playoutside.org. Free.

JAZZ FEST: Third annual Williamsburg Jazz Festival. Web site has schedule and program information: www.wjazzfestival.com. (718) 752-1188.

CHILDREN

SEA LIFE: New York Aquarium hosts Grandparents' Day. Family event focused on marine mammals. Includes docu-work music, storytelling and arts and crafts. \$11, \$7 children, ages 2 to 12, and seniors. 10 am to 5 pm. West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue. (718) 265-6584.

OPEN HOUSE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange offers a sampling of classes for its fall term. Classes for all levels, kids to adults. 10 am to 4 pm. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 632-0016.

CAROUSEL: \$1 per ride. Noon to 6 pm. Prospect Park Children's Corner, at intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Empire Boulevard. (718) 955-8960.

PIPETWORKS: presents the French fairy tale, "Beauty and the Beast." \$8, \$7 children. Recommended for ages 8 and older. 2:30 pm, 338 South Ave. at Fourth Street. (718) 965-3391.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Family Science Workshop presents "Words from the Greenhouse." Kids, ages 8 and older, are invited to listen to poetry inspired by the natural world. Then, create your own poem and artwork. \$4, free for members. 3 pm to 5 pm. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4000.

BROOKLYN FAMILY THEATER: presents a musical "The Music Hall Revue." \$10, 7 pm, 1012 Eighth Ave. (718) 670-7205.

OTHER

SYNAPSEK SHABBAT: Kane Street Synagogue celebrates its 150th anniversary with a weekend of unconventional programming. Activities include talks, food, meditation services, discussion groups and a community gathering in a local park. Call for information. 230 Kane St. (718) 875-1550. Free.

OPEN HOUSE: Mark Morris Dance Group invites the community to dance classes for adults and children. Take part in jazz, West African, modern, ballet, tap and yoga. 10 am to 3 pm. 3 Lafayette Ave. (718) 624-8400. Free.

SAMPLE CLASSES: Brooklyn Arts Exchange offers classes in music and movement, creative movement, modern dance, teen dance, theater and more. 10 am to 4 pm, 421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street. (718) 632-0016. Free.

FASHION MARKET: Brooklyn Designers Showcase features emerging designers of handcrafted merchandise. 10:30 am to 3 pm, 157 Montague St. (718) 763-7654.

MEETING: American Association of Retired Persons meets. 1 pm, Bay Ridge Center, 6935 Fourth Ave. (718) 748-6050. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents New York Korean Film Festival. Today, "Romance of Their Own" (2004), \$10, \$7 students. 3 pm. Also, "Another Public Enemy" (2005), 6 pm. Additionally, "Bunraku" (2004), 9 pm, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

OPENINGS: Stacy Stewart Smith Gallery presents "World Peace on the Subway." Emerging Artist Stacy Stewart Smith. 3 pm to 9 pm, 972 Atlantic Ave. (718) 230-5145. Free.

PATIO PARTY: "Support Your Local Used Bookstore" benefit for Freebird Books. Readings, music and barbecue held on the bookstore's patio. Donations appreciated. 4 pm to 10 pm. Freebird Books, 123 Columbia St. (718) 643-8484.

RECEPTION: David Allen Art and Design Gallery presents "Nocturne," an exhibition of photos by Jodie Dinkow. 6 pm to 7 pm, 33 Smith St. (718) 488-5568. Free.

READING: "Spiral Thought Magazine" hosts a reading. 6 pm to 8 pm. Shakespeare's Sister, 270 Court St. (718) 832-2310. Free.

EXHIBIT: Henry Gregg Gallery presents paintings of Martha Kline in an exhibit entitled



As part of the Alzheimer's Foundation conference at the Brooklyn Marriott on 13th, actress Deirdre Hall, of NBC's "Days of Our Lives," will share her family's experience.

"Lush Life." 7 pm to 11 pm, 111 Front St. (718) 408-1090. Free.

SHORTS: Brooklyn Lycium presents "Elevator World," directed by Mitchell Rose. \$10, 8 pm, 222 Fourth Ave. www.brooklyn-lycium.com. (718) 587-4816.

EXHIBIT: Spoke the Hub presents "Works on the Wall," a solo exhibit of painter photography, drawing and multi-media by a local artist. 8 pm to 9 pm, 748 Union St. (718) 608-3234. Free.

LECTURE: Modern Jewish Center Club hosts "Brooklyn Revisited," a narrative picture tour of Brooklyn's past. Brooklyn historian Ron Schwager is guest speaker. \$13, 8:30 pm, 2789 Nostrand Ave. Reservations necessary. (718) 339-7755.

ANNIVERSARY SALE: LeNeil Ltd, a wine and spirit boutique, hosts a tasting. 416 Ken Brunt St. Call for hours. (718) 360-0838. Free.

OFF MUSIC: Classes begin at the Brooklyn Queens Conservatory of Music. 38 Seventh Ave. Call for fee info. (718) 622-3300.

Sun, Sept 11

4th Anniversary of 9-11

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

BIKE TOUR: Transportation Alternatives hosts a century bike tour of 15, 35, 75 and 100 miles. www.NYCcentury.org. Call: (212) 629-8880.

PLAY OUTSIDE: Circus Amok performs outdoor rhythms. 12:30 pm to 3 pm. Prospect Park, enter park at Prospect Park West.

PERFORMANCE

CHAMBER MUSIC: Brooklyn Brandenburgers marks the anniversary of 9-11 with a performance. 12:30 pm to 3 pm. Old Stone House, JJ Byrne Park, Fifth Avenue at Third Street. (718) 783-8417. Free.

IRISH MUSIC: Cady Frielson Band performs Irish folk music. \$10 donation adults, free for kids 12 and younger. 2 pm. Dier Offerman Park, Shore Parkway at Coney Avenue, Coney Island. (718) 722-6008.

MEMORIAL CONCERT: St. Jacob's Lutheran Church presents bantone David Parsons, soloist. 4 pm, 5406 Fourth Ave. (718) 439-9978. Free.

JAZZ FEST: Third annual Williamsburg Jazz Festival. Web site has schedule and program: www.wjazzfestival.com. (718) 782-5188.

CHILDREN

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: hosts "Story Dium," an introduction to African rhythms. \$4, free for members. 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm, 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

PUPPETWORKS: "Beauty and the Beast." 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. See Sat, Sept. 10.

OTHER

GREEN MARKET: Produce market in Fort Greene Park. 8 am until park closes. South Portland and DeKalb avenues. (718) 907-4603.

ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION: Mayor Bloomberg and Governor Paterson mark fourth anniversary of the World Trade Center attack at World Trade Center, lower Manhattan. 8:46 am. Houses of worship will toll their bells at that time. www.nyc.gov.

OPEN HOUSE: Kane Street Synagogue invites community members to a morning memorial service for victims of Sept. 11. Other activities throughout the day. 9 am to 3 pm, 236 Kane St. (718) 875-1550. Free.

Flea Market: at St. Finbar. 9 am to 3 pm.

Bath Avenue and Bay 20th Street. (718) 236-3312.

BLOOD DRIVE: In observance of the fourth anniversary of 9-11, NY Aquarium and Maimonides Medical Center host a blood drive. Donors get free admission pass to aquarium. 11 am to 4 pm. West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue. (718) 265-FISH.

OPEN HOUSE: at Progressive Temple Beth Ahavah Sholem. 11 am to 2 pm. 1515 46th St. (718) 436-5082. Free.

FARMERS' MARKET: at Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum. 1 pm to 4 pm. Also, gardening workshop "Permaculture Design." 2 pm to 4 pm. 5814 Cressden Road. www.wyckoff-farmhouse.org. (718) 629-5400.

LOSS AND MEMORY: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, hosts a panel discussion "Loss and Memory," with reflections on the fourth anniversary of 9-11. 2 pm. Cooper Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. Free.

READING: Several authors from the anthology "New York Stories: The Best of the City Section of the New York Times," read from their work. \$3, 3 pm. Sunny's Bar, 253 Conover St. (718) 628-8211.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents New York Korean Film Festival. Today, "A Moment to Remember" (2004), \$10, \$7 students. 3 pm. Also, "My Brother" (2004), 6 pm and "Hypnotized" (2000) at 9 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

SUZUKI PIANO: Classes begin at the Brooklyn Queens Conservatory of Music. 58 Seventh Ave. Call for fee info. (718) 622-3300.

COMMUNITY FUNDING: Proposals to Hoyt Street Association Community Funding Program are due on Sept. 20. Call (718) 237-0146. Visit www.samlaborerbrooklyn.com/vis/hoytstreetassociationCF.html.

SHORTS: Brooklyn Lycium presents "An Evening of the World's Best Short Films." \$10, 7 pm, 225 Fourth Ave. www.brooklyn-lycium.com. (718) 857-4816.

CAFE STEINHOFF: Night at the movies with a screening of "In the Heat of the Night" (1967). 10:30 pm. No cover. 422 Seventh Ave. at 14th Street. (718) 369-7716. Free.

Mon, Sept 12

MEMORIAL: St. Finbar Church holds a memorial service in memory of Rachel "Trenchie" Palano. 9 am. Dedication to name street corner of Bay 20th Street and Bath Avenue in her honor. 10 am, 138 Bay 20th St. (718) 236-3312.

ARTIST RECEPTION: St. Joseph's College Council for the Arts hosts an exhibit by photographer Tony Vaccaro. "The World Trade Center: A Personal Photographic Journal." 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 245 Clinton Ave. (718) 783-0234. Free.

PLAN FOR SUCCESS: Church Avenue Merchants Block Association offers a 10-week guide to planning for success. Learn how to improve your business and complete a written business plan. \$100, 6 pm to 9 pm. Weekly, through Nov. 17. Pre-registration required. 1701 Church Ave. (718) 287-6200.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Party Girls and Outlaws: Nicholas Ray." Today, "The True Story of Jesse James" (1957), \$10, \$7 students. 6:50 pm, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

TRAVELING CINEMA: Barbes Bar screens film "My Little Chickadee." 11:40, 7 pm. 16 North St. (718) 288-1741. Free.

LIFE AND ETHICS: Brooklyn Society for Cultural Culture hosts a series. Today, "A Panther in Africa," an exploration of the life of Peter O'Neill, founder of Kenia's City's Black Panther Chapter. 7 pm. 53 Prospect Park West at Second Street. (718) 783-2298. Free.

LECTURE: Progressive Temple Beth Ahavah Sholem offers talk about the similarities and differences between Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jews. 7:30 pm, 1515 46th St. (718) 436-5082. Free.

LECTURE SERIES: David Berg Series with Rabbi Aaron Raskin in a discussion, "The Lubliner of the 10 Commandments." Tonight, "Do Not Bear False Witness." 8 pm to 9 pm. 117 Remsen St. (718) 956-4840. Free.

AUDITION: Brooklyn Philharmonia Chorus invites community members to audition for its winter concert of "Messiah." Call for info. (718) 907-0963.

Tues, Sept 13

ALZHEIMER'S CONFERENCE: Alzheimer's Foundation of America hosts a program: "Concepts in Care Conference for Family Caregivers and Healthcare Professionals." \$35, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. NY Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge, 333 Adams St. (866) AFA-8484.

TWIRLING LESSON: Learn batonring. 6 pm to 8 pm. CLYM Gym at Notre Dame Hall, 59th Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues. (718) 376-5620. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Double Dutch: The Films of Jos de Putter and Peter Delbeek." Today, "Brooklyn Stories" (2002), \$10, \$7 students. 6:50 pm, 9:15 pm, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

MORTGAGE WORKSHOP: Learn to avoid predatory lending. 7 pm. Frantz Cipron and Associates, 2174 Nostrand Ave. (718) 434-5125. Free.

Weds, Sept 14

MEETING: Bay Ridge Chapter of AARP meets. 2 pm. Our Lady of Angels, 337 74th St. (718) 788-1272. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: Cinemachair with Elliott Stein. Today, "The Beguiled" (1971), \$10, \$7 students. 6:50 pm and 9:30 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

BALLROOM DANCE: Classes run through Nov. 16, 5:15, 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Cynthia King Dance Studio, 1258 Prospect Ave. (718) 437-0101.

THURS, SEPT 15

BROOKLYN COLLEGE REUNION: Alumni Association hosts its 15th annual Post 100th Alumni Awards Luncheon. 10 am. Student Center, Campus Road and East 27th Street. Call for ticket info. (718) 951-5085.

SENIOR EXERCISE: Salvation Army hosts a low-impact senior citizen exercise class. 10:30 am, 252 86th St. (718) 238-2991. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Double Dutch: The Films of Jos de Putter and Peter Delbeek." Today, "Alas Kurban Saat" (2004), \$10, \$7 students. 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm, 9:15 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

PLAY OUTSIDE: New Perspectives Theater performs a modern-day "Romeo and Juliet." 5 pm. Sunset Park, between 41st and Seventh avenues. Visit www.play-outside.org. Free.

SOLO EXHIBIT: The Delgado-Torreal Gallery presents oil and crayon paintings in "Hands to Toe," by Nathan Bond. 6 pm to 10 pm, 118 N. 11th St. (718) 422-0282. Free.

RECEPTION: Robert Lehman Gallery at Urban Glass presents the work of Michael Cowder in "Refined Crude." 6 pm to 8 pm. 647 Fulton St. (718) 625-3685. Free.

PADDLE TOUR: Red Hook Estuary Discover Fieldwork Tour takes a cruise on the East River. 6 pm to 8 pm. Valentine Pier, foot of Colley Street, west of Van Brunt. www.growestland.org. (718) 243-0849. Free.

COOKING CLASS: Energy Project Productions and Abundant NYC presents "Whole Grains, Greens and Beans," an evening of cooking tips, recipes and food. \$40. Evenings, \$35 with reservations, \$50 per pair. 634 Manhattan Ave. Williamsburg. (917) 450-7091.

AUTHOR TALK: Author Martha Scottgate reads from her book "The Girl From the Left." 7 pm. Brownstone Books, 109 Lewis Ave. at MacDonough Street. (718) 953-7338. Free.

Fri, Sept 16

ARTS ON THE COMMONS: Metrotech hosts a lunchtime concert series. Today, "Marianchi Real de Mexico" plays traditional music. Noon to 2 pm. Metrotech, Jay Street at Pearl Street. (718) 461-1527. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "Notorius Doc: Notorius" (1944), directed by Alfred Hitchcock. \$10, \$7 students. 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm, 9:15 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

RECEPTION: Brooklyn Historical Society hosts an exhibit called "Brooklyn: Sonnets and Signs." 5 pm to 8 pm. Panel discussion: "The Changing Community Landscape of Brooklyn," includes Anthony Da Palma, NYT columnist and lecturer. 128 Piermont St. (718) 222-4111. Free.

DIGITAL IMAGE TALK: Brooklyn Historical Society offers a talk: "Digital Images: Scanning, Retouching and Storing Electronic Image Files." Learn how to capture and restore digital images. \$20, \$15 preview workshop attendees. 6 pm to 7 pm. Held at St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St. Call to register. (718) 956-4840.

Continued on page 10...

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To list your event in **Where to GO**, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Papers, 35 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 634-0278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

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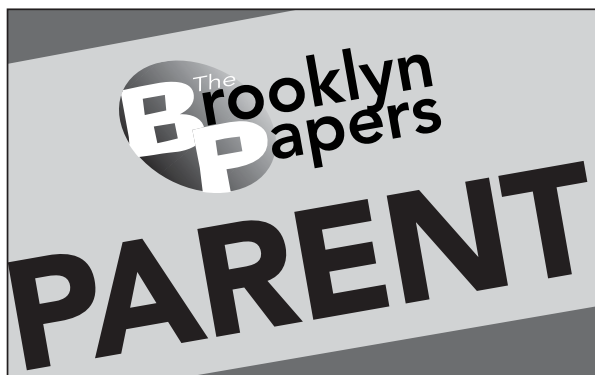
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**Some tips for a smooth transition back to school**

Waiting until October to declare no television on school nights? Not good. Draw up rules from the get-go to cut down on mid-se-

mester meltdowns.
 The start of school is the time to talk to your kids and set up a framework for the rest of the year, says consultant Jill Tipograph, who helps hundreds of families select camps for their kids. Don't leave the transition from summer to school up to chance, she says. For a smoother switch, decide with your children:

- When homework gets done. Before or after a relaxing break from school?
- Bedtime and wake-up routine. Does your child have his own alarm clock? Give him more responsibility this year.
- Cell phone, computer and TV time on weeknights vs. weekends.
- Chores for each child.
- After-school activities.

Don't overschedule. "Every family goes through this transition," says Tipograph, "A schedule keeps everybody going."

To minimize parental stress, plan a weekly time to discuss family and school matters, she says. For example, decide that Sunday nights are family nights with dinner together. To avoid last-minute surprises, use the time to update the week's family calendar.

Particularly if your child went to an away camp this summer, he or she will need weeks to decompress, Tipograph says. Use the life skills

Parent-to-Parent

By Betsy Flieger

your child has learned at camp to your advantage. Foster independence, teamwork and try to be less indulgent throughout the school year.

Some helpful facts:
 • **A new vaccine:** If you have an 11- or 12-year-old, or a child entering high school who has not had the new meningococcal vaccine, head to your health-care provider.

The new MCV4 vaccine offers protection against certain forms of bacterial meningitis, a potentially deadly disease that often strikes teens and young adults. Earlier this year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control updated its policies on administering routine meningococcal vaccines.

In addition to its guideline for college freshmen living in dorms, the agency recommends the MCV4 vaccine for children ages 11 to 12, and children entering high school who have not been vaccinated before.

• **Health insurance:** If your student lacks health insurance, look into low-cost or free coverage through the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Each state has its own income-qualification guidelines. Go to www.insurekidsnow.gov for general information on the program. Call (877) KIDS-NOW, and your call will automatically be routed to a consultant for your state.

• **Talking about school:** Instead of grilling your kids about school when they walk through the door, stay on top of school schedules and wait until a child is ready to talk, usually at dinner or bedtime, or in the car together.

• **Child-care dilemmas:** Before your child gets a nasty back-to-school virus, now's the time to make child-care plans. Find out about office policies regarding time off to be with your sick child. Can you trade shifts or work at home? Talk to your spouse about alternating responsibilities to care for your sick child. Preferably a child doesn't return to school until he has had no fever, no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours. Antibiotics should be in the child's system for at least one day.

• **Paper trail:** Get those bundles of paperwork in on time, and keep phone numbers, and emergency contacts current with the school.

Tip of the week
 To get the most suitable camp for your child, it's not too early to assess what

worked this summer and plan for next year. Re-enrollments tend to be in early fall. Give camp directors feedback about your child's experience, but don't be hasty about switching camps, suggests Tipograph, a camp consultant.

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Watch for Ratner's 'bait and switch'

To the editor:

I commend architect Frank Gehry for trying to make buildings wiggle like fish in developer Bruce Ratner's arena/office/housing mega-complex. However, how many times have we seen renowned architects come up with early innovative designs for projects needing zoning and other approvals and then see those designs fade with the stamp of approval?

To cite a recent example, we have developer Charles Cara's "Light Bridges" project at 100 Jay Street in DUMBO ["Zoning" in on DUMBO: How "Light Bridges" became the "J."], The Brooklyn Papers, Sept. 3]. The Brooklyn design by Greg Pasquarelli of SHoP Architects, in 2001, designed two bridged towers to wiggle like fishes up 20 unconventional stories from an irregular triangular plot wedged near the Manhattan Bridge. The building swam to approval in early 2002, but what was really approved was out-of-context zoning, not a building.

The metaphor then and there was building as plant: the building shape was to bend in rotating angles "much like a plant responds to sunlight." Pasquarelli said in a 2001 newspaper article. Cara said: "It's a fantastic project that the city needs with a very new and avant-garde design. It's just not a straight box like a lot of architecture is now."

Now guess what? Surprise, surprise, the design has just broken ground and reverted into a single conventional monolith dubbed "J Condo," rising 33 rectangular stories—a straight box with a sail-like facade. The new metaphor is a ship. Too bad it can't sail away. Something smells!

LETTERS

To cite another example, we need look no further than Bruce Ratner's own Atlantic Terminal complex. Here, too, an architect was engaged to come up with a curvy, shiny-skinned building along Flatbush Avenue. You can visit what's there now at Atlantic Avenue: a suburban mall this time slightly improved over the original sibling neighbor (Atlantic Center), albeit with cloying artifice.

But even if we were to accept these architectural promises as face value, would they be so great anyway? Isn't this Gehry project simply putting a slippery skin on what is really at heart a dehumanizing Modernist series of super blocks? Maybe what we need are not whales or sharks (eminent domain) but rather smaller fish that have some respect for the coral of Brooklyn. That's what Gehry should work on.

—Dan Wiley, Boerum Hill
Lawsuit clarification

To the editor:
As the main source of the article headlined "A-parkment foes threaten lawsuit"

[Sept. 3], I'd like to clarify several points.

First, Jess Wislowski is an excellent and accurate reporter. I'm not disputing the thrust of her article. My error was in not distinguishing during our conversation between Friends of Brooklyn Bridge Park, a coalition of individuals who have come together to discuss and hopefully fix deficiencies in the proposed park plan, and the Brooklyn Bridge Park Defense Fund, a not-for-profit organization recently incorporated to explore legal options regarding the park plan.

I am affiliated with both. Some members of "Friends" support the "Defense Fund," but as individuals, not as officers of community organizations. My error was in using the groups interchangeably. I apologize for the confusion I created.

On the subject of the use of the space at 250 Baltic St., the last two meetings of Friends had been held in the ground-floor community meeting room of that large building, not in space connected in any way with CB6.

Excepting the above, I ap-

preciated the opportunity to express feelings widely held in this community.

Thank you for your continuing coverage of this crucial issue.

—Bob Stone, Brooklyn Heights

To the editor:
Please print the following poem about Brooklyn Bridge Park—

CASH ON THE LAND
While the Brooklyn Bridge Park planners

Are reciting sonnets and rhapsodies
What they secretly love is condos

—Leon Freilich, Park Slope

Getting it right...

The article headlined "A-parkment foes threaten lawsuit" (Sept. 3) incorrectly stated that the group called Friends of Brooklyn Bridge Park had been meeting at the Community Board 6 offices at 250 Baltic St.

The group was meeting in the community meeting room at 250 Baltic St., unconnected to CB6 in any way. That building houses CB6 and several other entities.

The article also mistakenly attributed a potential lawsuit against the state over the Brooklyn Bridge Park plans to Friends of Brooklyn Bridge Park, when, in fact, the legal action is being studied by another group, the Brooklyn Bridge Park Defense Fund, which contains some of the same members.

We regret the errors.
The Brooklyn Papers strives for accuracy, but sometimes mistakes are made. In such cases, readers are urged to contact Editor Neil Sloane at (718) 834-9250, ext. 119, or by fax at (718) 834-9278.

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IBO: Ratner plan brings less than \$1M a year to NY

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

A long-awaited analysis by the city's Independent Budget Office, released this week, finds that the Atlantic Yards arena project would bring \$28.5 million in revenue to the city over 30 years.

The findings, released Tuesday, fell well short of estimates of the projected benefits made by both the city Economic Development Corporation (EDC) — \$139.21 million over 30 years — and developer Forest City Ratner,

whose hired sports economist, Andrew Zimbalist, projected a net revenue of \$136 million.

Jim Stuckey, the executive vice president of Forest City Ratner, said in a prepared statement this week that the greater benefit would be the additional 6,000 units of housing, along with commercial and retail space that would be created under the Atlantic Yards plan. He cited Zimbalist's analysis for the Atlantic Yards to generate \$1.6 billion in gross revenue over 30 years.

"We are, of course, very

pleased that the Independent Budget Office has concluded that the Atlantic Yards project is a win-win for the city and state from a financial perspective," said Stuckey, who was credited this week for the first time as the project manager for Atlantic Yards.

Critics of Ratner's \$3.5-billion plan, which includes a \$533 million professional basketball arena and 17 residential and office towers to be developed along Atlantic Avenue in Prospect Heights, said the 14-page report fell short of what they'd hoped for.

"Ratner's projected profits for the city and state are exponentially greater than any independent study has shown," said Daniel Goldstein, spokesman for the anti-Atlantic Yards neighborhood group Develop-Don't Destroy Brooklyn, and a condo owner living in the footprint of Ratner's proposed development site.

"Less than \$1 million a year is an unacceptably small return on a huge public investment," he said.

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CASH

Continued from page 1
as a test balloon to gauge the MTA's reaction.

"Based on what they've said [here], I've looked around, but nobody knows anything about scheduling a special meeting. So far nothing has been changed," he said.

Kelly reiterated that the approval for the sale might not occur until the next full MTA board meeting, scheduled for Sept. 29.

A spokesman for Forest City Ratner, Barry Baum, was less forthcoming.

"We are not discussing the MTA bid," he said.

City OEM: Imagine hurricanes in NYC

By Sara Kugler
Associated Press

Imagine Coney Island flooded with water as a storm surge that washes over the boardwalk and submerges the Nathan's.

Posters showing similar scenarios, with the ominous warning "NYC Hurricane Ahead," are going up around the city this week to warn New Yorkers that what happened in the South could happen here.

The ad campaign by the city's Office of Emergency Management was planned long before Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf Coast, but city officials say the devastation there is a grim reminder that New York must prepare for hurricanes that could similarly swallow swaths of the five boroughs.

"Even though we haven't had a hurricane in a while, we are susceptible," a OEM spokesman Jarrod Bernstein said Thursday. "What we want is people to know where they live in terms of the zones now so they know what to do if a storm comes."

The zones at highest risk include Coney Island, Lower Manhattan, Coney Island, the Rockaways in Queens and the perimeter of Staten Island. Emergency officials say 30-foot-high storm surges could drown those areas during a major hurricane.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Thursday that the city begins monitoring storms as they form off the coast of Africa. He said officials have studied New York's topography and have evacuation plans ready to go.

"The city has no land that is lower than sea level, but it clearly has some areas that are very close to sea level and that flood occasionally," he said. "We've looked very carefully at these."

Authorities say that surges are not limited to waterfronts and that flooding could push miles inland in some areas. The city is especially vulnerable because it is nestled in a bend along the coastline between New Jersey and Long Island. Hurricane season here is from August to October, when waters along the East Coast are warmer.

With much of the attention focused on hurricanes' familiar targets in the South, like Florida and the Gulf Coast, it is easy to think the Northeast is spared. But the storms have battered New York, too.

The worst hit in 1938, before hurricanes began receiving official names. The storm was known as the Long Island Express.

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BCAT Program Guide - What's on Brooklyn Community Access Television

The Voice of Everyday People

by Rahul Chadha

On a Saturday situated at the tail end of this summer's most punishing heat wave, Agnes E. Green managed to pull herself from her Spring Creek home and make the trek through oppressively humid 99 degree air to Brooklyn Community Access Television (BCAT), just a stone's throw from Flatbush Avenue in the Fort Greene cultural district. On a day when the heat was melting tar all over the five boroughs, Green had made sure to get to BCAT's television studio — to work on another producer's show. Although Green has been producing episodes of her monthly program, *Everyday People, Everyday Voices*, for over a year, she still puts in time on other shows in order to learn the skills she needs to polish her own program.

But Green is no stranger to television production. She is a long-time co-director and producer of the Manhattan Neighborhood Network show *Media Watch*, and her resume includes a 19-year stint working as manager of editorials and the producer of a half-hour show on WCBG radio. It seems it is the journalist in her that gave her a deep love and respect of the free speech rights outlined in the First Amendment of the Constitution, the very thing that seems to drive the content of *Everyday People*.

"So much of commercial or corporate television and the media depend on getting experts. To that end they use their accumulated knowledge, but— from my point of view—everyday people have opinions, generally about things that they read and think about," she says. "I feel that the majority or the dominant members of our society, get to call the shots, and many times the majority doesn't consider what the consequences are for others. My hope for the program is for someone to have a curious thought, or to hear a conversation about something that's going on so they say, 'Oh, I didn't know that. That's interesting.' And that's it."

To be sure, *Everyday People, Everyday Voices* is an embodiment of one of the most egalitarian approaches to media making that's out there. Green's criteria for subject matter seems to extend no further than things that she personally finds interesting. And often times the people are those who have already been

pushed to the extreme margins of society. "People with opinions should have an opportunity, in a cogent way, to express themselves. That's the premise of my show," she says. A simple concept, but one rooted in the most democratic principle of the First Amendment.

Still, the people whose opinions she has solicited as interviewees in the past have earned some advance glances from friends who watch the show. One viewer called her up after a show to check with Green to see if she realized that her interview subject seemed intoxicated. "But he wasn't drunk," says Green with a laugh. "That was just how he presented himself."

In the past, her curiosity and self-described "people personality" has led her to produce pieces such as the one of a man locked into a seemingly quixotic quest to get the local branch of the public library in his neighborhood reopened (he was eventually successful in his gambit). Green stumbled across the public library advocate as she was driving around Brooklyn one day and saw the man seated by the side of the road with a slew of signs designed to draw attention to his cause. "I'm just a people person, I'm interested in people," says Green. "I'm not interested in their station in life, I'm interested in what they are and what they contribute."

One of her favorite subjects for the show was a woman who had branded herself the "Hip-Hop Musical Mystery



Agnes E. Green, producer and host of *Everyday People, Everyday Voices*, a monthly program on BCAT.


Agatha Christie" whom Green discovered at a dinner at Manhattan's Playwright Tavern. The woman had managed to produce her own off-Broadway show that incorporated elements of music and video for a multimedia show, all of which she had produced or written herself. The woman, who had no previous experience in theater production, had overcome substantial obstacles in order to get her show to a stage. "This lady was so animated, she's the kind of person who is a born entertainer," says Green. "What I got out of that interview was that if you really believe, you can accomplish amazing things."

What's most interesting about Green's anecdote are the parallels between the performer and her own experience with *Everyday People*. Both Green and her theatrical counterpart have sidestepped more traditional means of reaching a mainstream audience in order to stay true to a vision of a specific ideal. As Green herself puts it, "In every walk of life there are people doing extraordinary things who don't have superstar status." *Everyday People, Everyday Voices* might just do something to change that.

Everyday People, Everyday Voices can be seen on BCAT on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 2pm and 10pm on Time Warner Cable channel 56, Cablevision 69, and streaming live at www.bcat.tv/bcat.

FIND THIS WEEK'S COMPLETE BCAT PROGRAM GUIDE ON FOLLOWING PAGE

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The Play's the Thing

with Ed Shakespeare

Where did the time go?

LIST THE OTHER NIGHT, the Cyclones were losing 2-1. Edgar Rodriguez was up for Brooklyn with two out, bases empty, in the bottom of the ninth. The packed crowd was hoping for a miracle. They got one. Rodriguez hit the ball deep into the night, over the fence.

That tied the game, and Brooklyn won it in the 10th on a sacrifice fly by Mike Jacobs.

Wait...no. That wasn't just the other night. But it sometimes feels like it was.

Instead, that was Brooklyn's first home game in 44 years, during the Cyclones' inaugural season of 2001. This week, the Cyclones will have completed their fifth campaign.

And after five seasons, it's time to take stock. The first-ever Cyclones home game was a sellout, and for the most part, the Clones have been selling out, or near selling out, ever since.

That has left some fans believing that team management is taking them for granted.

"I know it's a business, but sometimes I feel as if I'm viewed as just a wall," said Patrick Witt, of Downtown Brooklyn and also season-ticket holder. "When the Cyclones asked for playoff money for four playoff games when Brooklyn was about nine games out of first, and it was obvious that there wouldn't be four playoff games, well, that burned me up."

Witt isn't the only one with a gripe.

"The season-tickets holders pay top dollar here compared to other minor league cities and we don't get enough for it," said Mark Lazaro, a season-ticket holder better known as the "Mayor of Station 14."

"Hagerstown, for example, gives season-ticket holders breaks on the cost of tickets and free food days," the mayor noted.

And those aren't the only complaints.

The noise level of Keyspan, for instance, has increased. Many fans are complaining that it's hard to carry on a conversation with near incessant screaming and loud music over the public address system—especially between innings, when on-field games and in-jinks take over.

Following the team via the radio is also too difficult. Unlike most minor league teams, Brooklyn does not have a high-powered station carrying the games. Kingsborough Community College radio, WKRB, has broadcast the Cyclones games every season except for 2002, when they were carried on the now defunct 620 WSNR-AM, Sporting News Radio. While Kingsborough gives it the old college try, it's still difficult for most fans to get a clear signal. Brooklyn, with more than 2 million residents, deserves better.

AS FAR AS PRODUCING PLAYERS for the Mets, most Brooklyn fans are disappointed—to put it mildly—that Cyclone alumnus Scott Kazmir was traded to Tampa Bay. While eight Cyclones have reached the majors, only the most recent—Mike Jacobs—is playing with the Mets.

But it isn't all bad news.

While prices have gone up since 2001, Keyspan Park is still a bargain compared to its major league counterparts.

"I'm really happy with things at Keyspan Park. It's good, professional baseball and we have access to the players," said Bob Berardelli, a season-ticket holder from Sheepshead Bay. "It's good family entertainment and it doesn't cost five or six hundred dollars to take your family to a game."

As on-field performance goes, it would be difficult to ask for a superior quality of ball. The Cyclones have made the playoffs in three of their five campaigns, and won a co-championship in 2001.

Off the field, the area surrounding Keyspan Park has improved. Judging from news reports (and by walking around the place), it's clear Coney Island is in the midst of a renaissance.

Meanwhile, publications such as Baseball America have been reporting the possibility that the free-agent draft will be moved to near the end of June rather than the first Tuesday of the month. This could result in the New York-Penn League, which relies mightily on June draftees, to change its schedule, going to 90 games (up from 76), with a season running from late May until late August, instead of late June until mid-September.

And a few more games in Brooklyn wouldn't be such a bad thing.

Other sources have speculated that the Brooklyn franchise could someday become a full-season team in another league, on the single-A or double-A level, but at this year's All-Star game New York Mets senior executive vice president Jeff Wilpon put the kibosh on that idea.

"At this time, we've tabled discussions about the Cyclones playing in a full-season league," said Wilpon. "The weather out here [Coney Island] is pretty cold in April, and it could be hard to fill the seats."

Still, I would like to see a longer season. Starting the season in late May would be great, but at some point—hopefully sooner rather than later—Brooklyn will have a full-season team. Yes, Coney Island's weather can be cold in April, but that can be solved with a majority of day games being played there.

So, let's turn down the public address noise at the ballpark and turn up the radio station power. Let's see more Cyclones reach—and stay—with the Mets. And let's have management show the fans they're appreciated, while the fans maintain a family like, civil atmosphere.

Yes, Brooklyn's honeymoon with the Cyclones is long over.

But the marriage is just beginning.



Put it on the board

Sandy the Seagull, shown on the Keyspan Park scoreboard Thursday night, holds up a copy of The Brooklyn Papers.

BROOKLYN CYCLONES COVERAGE

When losing is winning

By Ed Shakespeare
for The Brooklyn Papers

Down on the field at Keyspan Park this summer, the Cyclones won 22 times and lost on 16 occasions, but up in the press box, the biggest loss of all took place—one that could also be considered the biggest win of all.

That's because Roy Volpe, a cameraman for the Cyclones, has lost more than 118 pounds since late March—and his weight loss continues.

Volpe, about to turn 39, was born and raised in Brooklyn, and he grew up in Bensonhurst.

"I wasn't what you'd call an athlete while I was growing up," said Volpe. "But I was athletic. I played baseball, softball and football."

But over the years, Volpe kept putting on weight, and he would go on diets, lose weight, and then put it right back on, and then gain more weight.

Finally, this March, Volpe, who had ballooned to 430 pounds, noticed that he would be out of breath after walking merely a block.

Concerned about the effects of his weight on his health, Volpe went to a doctor, joined Weight Watchers, and began working out five days a week.

"I lift weights for an hour to an hour-and-a-half in each workout," explains Volpe. "Then I workout for another hour to an hour-and-a-half on my cardio."

Volpe works at Keyspan Park amid an environment tailored to taste bud temptations. The sights, sounds and smells of the ballpark tempt everyone there with appeals for peanuts, hot dogs and french fries. Volpe is literally surrounded by food, most of it fattening, yet he has been able to resist temptation.

"A lot of people lose weight and then plateau because they



don't exercise enough," said Volpe. "It's important to keep doing the exercise."

Proud of his loss, Volpe wants to go public with his story to help others.

Maybe when others read about me, they'll be inspired to do the same thing," he adds.

Eating plenty of grilled chicken and salads, Volpe has a few diet rules:

1. No fried food
2. No fast food
3. Limit "white food"—white bread, white rice, white flour—and especially sugar
4. No eating late at night
5. Portion control
6. Exercise five days a week (two-three hours a session)

Volpe, from his perch near the Catbird Seat at Keyspan Park, is always looking at you, the fan, through his camera lens as he pans the crowd between baseball action.

Next season, at the Home Opener, maybe you could look up at him. He vows to continue his healthy eating habits, and hopes you will join him as big losers—who in the big scheme of things are becoming big winners.

Cyclones that are in the playoffs

Maybe the Cyclones didn't make the playoffs this season, but plenty of Brooklyn Cyclones alumni did reach the post-season—as members of the single-A (low) Hagerstown (Maryland) Suns, the New York Mets affiliate in the South Atlantic League.

Hagerstown is the next step



At his perch in Keyspan Park, Cyclones cameraman Roy Volpe, who has lost more than 100 pounds since March.

up the ladder from Brooklyn in the Mets minor league chain, and the roster is filled with Brooklyn alumni, not only from last year's Cyclones, but from this year's team as well.

The Suns won the league's first half Northern Division championship. Even though the team finished last in the

Northern Division in the second half, the club was guaranteed a playoff spot.

Former Cyclone Grant Pucmas, an infielder with the Suns, hit .300 for the Suns this season, bating .19 homers.

Suns infielder Matt Fisher played for the Cyclones in both 2004 and this year, and infielders Armand Gaerlan and

Joe Mihalic both played in Brooklyn this season. James Burt and Yan Coultas, both Cyclones in 2004, are also infielders on the team.

Other Cyclones on the squad include outfielders Ambiorix Concepcion, Corey Coles, and Kyle Brown; catcher Rafael Arroyo; and pitchers Mike Devaney, Joe Williams, Orlando Kengel and Edgar Alfonso.

The Suns were at Delmarva, in Salisbury, Md., for the first game of a best-of-three series on Wednesday, Sept. 7, and Hagerstown plays the second game of this semi-final series at home, at Municipal Stadium, on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7:05 pm. Game three, if necessary, will be played on Saturday, also in Hagerstown, at 7:05 pm.

President's prize

Brooklyn 3, Staten Island 2—No, that's not the score of a particular game, it's how many times each club has won the Borough President's Trophy—annually presented to the team that wins the season series between the rivals. The trophy features a sculpture that represents the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, with each team's respective ballparks at either end.

Staten Island, this year's McNamara Division champs, won this year's series, 7-5 (they also won the prize in 2002). Thus, the trophy resides for a year in Staten Island's Borough Hall.

Last season, in greeting patrons via bullhorn at a Brooklyn-Staten Island game at Keyspan Park, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz playfully called Staten Island Yankee fans "Brooklyn wannabes," and jokingly urged the Cyclones to "send those Staten Islanders back over the bridge."

"I don't want [Staten Island Borough President James] Molinaro getting the trophy," said Markowitz in an inter-

view with The Brooklyn Papers at Keyspan Park earlier this season while the fate of the season series was still in doubt.

Well, Staten Island does get the trophy for a year.

But, there's the saying: "Wait 'til..." Ah, fubhdaboutit!

Workin' hard or hardly workin'?

When Brooklyn played at Aberdeen on Sept. 5, the Ironbirds celebrated the 10th anniversary of Cal Ripken Jr. setting the all-time major league consecutive games record of 2,131.

Ripken spoke at the ballpark ceremonies before the game.

"I never tried to set a record for consecutive games played," said Ripken. "I just tried to do what my father taught me, which was to show up at the ballpark each day, ready to play my best if the manager needed me."

"It's good to look back a bit," added Ripken, "but it's also good to look forward, and I'm just as proud of this [the Ironbird's home park, Cal Ripken Stadium and its surrounding complex] as I am of the streak. This is a place for family entertainment in my home town, and it's also where young kids can learn the game of baseball."

After the ceremonies, I asked Jay Markowitz, the Ironbirds' public relations coordinator, and former Brooklyn Cyclones staff member, if Ripken ever missed a day of work.

"Not too often," said Markowitz.

Another Aberdeen staffer added, "You try working for a man who never missed a game for that long. It's pretty hard to ask for a vacation."

"But I tell him," the staffer continued, "that if we only had to work 162 days a year, like he wouldn't miss a day either."

Cyclones fall out of contention

By Ed Shakespeare
for The Brooklyn Papers

Staten Island 12

Brooklyn 8

Aug. 31 at Keyspan Park

The Yankees took an early lead with four runs in the second and another two in the third, and the Cyclones kept chipping away but never got close enough.

Staten Island (48-20) started the second inning scoring with a two-run homer by Tony Roth and a two-run double by Kyle Larsen.

The Yankees increased the lead to 5-0 in the third on an RBI single by Jose Perez and added another run when Felipe Garcia scored on a wild pitch.

After Staten Island latched on to a run in the top of the fourth, Brooklyn came back with a three-run bottom of the inning. With two away, Jonel Pacheco doubled and then scored on Drew Butera's double. Dirrino Chavez homered to score two more.

The Yankees scored another run in the fifth to lead 8-3 before Brooklyn scored a run on an RBI single by Pacheco.

After two more Staten Island runs in the sixth, Brooklyn came back with three runs to narrow the score to 10-7. The Cyclones runs scored from a single by Caleb Stewart and a two-run homer by Nick Evans.

Brooklyn (36-32) climbed to within a run in the seventh on an RBI single by Matt Anderson.

Staten Island added two insurance runs in the ninth.

Hairo Solis (6-1) earned the win in relief while Brooklyn starter Jorge Reyes (4-5) suffered the defeat.

Brooklyn 8

Staten Island 4

Sept. 1 at Keyspan Park

Brooklyn turned on the power as they out-slugged the Yankees on Brooklyn Papers Night.

The Cyclones (37-32) struck first in the second inning against Staten Island starter and loser Eric Wordekemper (0-1) when Nick Evans singled and then scored on Jonel Pacheco's homer to give Brooklyn a 5-1 lead.

Staten Island scored a pair of runs in the eighth before Brooklyn wrapped up the scoring on an RBI double by



And here's the pitch

Brooklyn Papers photographer Greg Mango throws out the ceremonial first pitch before Thursday's game during Brooklyn Papers Day at Keyspan Park.

against Brooklyn starter and winner Ryan Meyers (1-4) when Eduardo Nunez tripled and scored a Kyle Larsen single.

The Cyclones showed more power in the sixth as Caleb Stewart doubled and scored on Nick Evans' triple. Evans later scored on Jonel Pacheco's homer to give Brooklyn a 5-1 lead.

Staten Island scored a pair of runs in the eighth before Brooklyn wrapped up the scoring on an RBI double by

Evans and a two-RBI single by Drew Butera.

Brooklyn starter Ryan Meyers (1-4) took the win.

Staten Island 0

Sept. 2 at Staten Island

The Cyclones broke open a scoreless game with a three-run eighth inning in the final game of the year between the cross-Narrows rivals.

Dirrino Chavez led off the Brooklyn eighth with a walk. Greg Gonzalez singled Chavez

to second before Joe Holden forced Chavez at third.

Caleb Stewart's double to left drove in two Brooklyn runs and Matt Anderson singled in Stewart to give the Cyclones (38-32) their final run.

Both Pannell started for Brooklyn and threw 6.2 innings, allowing three hits. Robert Paule (4-0), who picked up the win, pitched the final 2-1/3 innings for the Cyclones, allowing no hits and a walk. Steve Schroer (3-3) took the loss.

The game completed the season series between the rivals with Staten Island (48-22) finishing with a 7-5 season edge.

Brooklyn 2

Hudson Valley 1

Sept. 3 at Hudson Valley

The Cyclones jumped in front with a two-run first, then held on to defeat The Renegades.

Greg Gonzalez led-off the game for Brooklyn (39-32) by reaching on an error. Gonzalez stole second and went to third on a single by Dirrino Chavez.

Caleb Stewart singled in Gonzalez, sending Chavez to second. On the next play, Nick Evans hit a grounder that the Renegade third baseman grabbed to force Chavez at third, but his wild throw to first resulted in Brooklyn runners at the corners. After an error, Jonel Pacheco singled in Stewart.

In the second, Hudson Valley (29-40) scored its only run of the game when Brooklyn starter Jeff Landing loaded the bases and batted in the run.

Landing (6-0) pitched five innings and took the win, and Travis Howe pitched the final four innings to grab his second save.

Renegade starter Mike Wodarczyk (5-4) was charged with the loss.

Hudson Valley 3

Brooklyn 0

Sept. 4 at Hudson Valley

The Renegades put the Cyclones close to playoff elimination as three Hudson Valley runs in the eighth comprised the game's scoring.

The Renegade's (30-40) loaded the bases in the decisive eighth against Brooklyn with one away.

Eric Durante walked against reliever Joe D'Alessandro to score the first run. Catcher Drew Butera dropped a throw on a force attempt to allow the second run, and Garrett Groce singled in the final run.

Brooklyn reliever Kyle Risinger (1-3) drew the loss and Renegade reliever Willy Corporan (1-0) got the win.

The loss left Brooklyn (39-33) trailing second place Williamsport by two games in the Wild Card race, with four games remaining for each

team.

Brooklyn 7

Aberdeen 2

Sept. 5 at Aberdeen

Brooklyn broke open a scoreless game with a three-run fifth in the opener of a two-game series.

With one away, Dirrino Chavez started the Cyclones fifth with a single and then stole second. Greg Gonzalez scored Chavez with a double.

A Joe Holden single, plus an error on a throw to the catcher put Cyclone runners on second and third, and both Brooklyn base runners scored on a single by Caleb Stewart.

Aberdeen (25-47) narrowed the gap to 3-2 with an Ironbird run in the fifth, and another run in the seventh on a homer by Jose Zapata, before Brooklyn scored three more runs in the eighth to put the game out of reach.

The Cyclones runs in the eighth scored on an RBI single by Jonel Pacheco and a two-RBI double by Drew Butera.

Brooklyn (40-33) added a run in the ninth when Stewart doubled and later scored on an error.

Cyclones starter Sal Aguilar (5-0) earned the victory, and Ironbird starter Reid Hamblent (4-4) was charged with the loss.

Aberdeen 5

Brooklyn 1

Sept. 6 at Aberdeen

Aberdeen scored all of its five runs in the second inning as the Cyclones' loss eliminated Brooklyn from contention for a wildcard playoff spot.

The frame started when Zach Davis reached first on an error by Cyclones' second baseman Ivan Naccarata. The Ironbirds (26-47) loaded the bases and Robert Andrews singled in a run. A passed ball by catcher Drew Butera scored a run and left two runners in scoring position.

Willy Erbe (1-1) started and won for Aberdeen while the Cyclones' starter Ryan Meyers (1-5) took the loss.

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